

Monthly Human Rights Observation Report on Bangladesh

June, 2016



**HUMAN RIGHTS SUPPORT CENTER
(HRSC)**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

According to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. Human Rights Support Centre (HRSC) believes that human rights are the rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of political and religious identity, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, language, or any other status. All people are equally entitled to human rights without any kinds of discrimination. They are applicable everywhere and at every time in the sense of being universal, and they are inalienable. From the perspective of Bangladesh, HRSC is working for improving democratic values, culture of peace, security, good governance and justice. We support to ensure the rights of citizens and peoples of Bangladesh beyond its social, political, cultural, economic and religious positions. HRSC is one of the prominent human rights organizations which believe in equality and impartiality in all sphere of the human impediment in Bangladesh.

However, Human rights violation in Bangladesh is continued till June 2016, as similar as to the previous month. In this month, the significant human rights issues were extra-judicial killing, domestic violence, abduction, rape, gang rape and child rape. But the worst situation was in the case of arbitrary arrest. Violent attack especially attacks on minority have been considered as a serious problem for the last June 2016.

According to the source of human rights support center (HRSC), approximately 27 people were killed extra-judicially in June 2016. The deaths occurred during raids, arrests as well as during operations by the law-enforcement agencies. The government often regretfully describes these deaths as the name of crossfire/gunfights/encounter killing. Secondly, 'Arbitrary Arrest' from June 10 to June 16, 2016; a total 14,552 people were arbitrarily arrested without proper evidence of a crime.

Moreover, HRSC report demonstrates that, a total of 71 females were alleged to be raped in June 2016. Among of them, 08 were killed after rape and 15 were below the age of 16. About 14 women were subjected to gang rape. A total of 13 women were killed for dowry and roughly 20 were sexually harassed. Approximately, 22 women were killed in the family feud and 11 have been injured in a total of 33 incidences.

On the other hand, at least 03 Bangladeshi citizens were killed by BSF and 09 were injured and 64 were killed in the violent attack. An account of 43 people have been abducted, among of them 11 were rescued and 05 were killed after the abduction. In terms of journalist attack, around 01 was threatened and about 05 were seriously injured. Furthermore, around 21 people were killed in political violence. At least 11 people were killed in a public lynching. Remarkably, in a total of three violent attacks on minority, almost 03 people were killed and 15 were injured. In the case of "violence against children" in June 2016, around 08 children were killed and almost 07 children have been critically injured in a total of nearly 15 incidents. This report has been prepared on the basis of 12 daily newspaper of Bangladesh and the investigative report of HRSC.

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INTRODUCTION

Human rights are rights that hold to be inalienable and belonging to all human, according to natural law. Human rights are fundamental rights or basic rights. Fundamental rights cannot, rather must not, be denied or resisted by any legislature or Government actions and are often set out in a constitution.¹ Human rights are protected and upheld by international and national laws and treaties. All human beings are born free and equal. Human rights advocates agree that sixty years after its adoption, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is still more a dream than reality.

The state is the defender of all sorts of human rights. The Constitution of Bangladesh recognizes 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 justifiable, i.e. a person can file a petition before the High Court in case there is a violation of her fundamental rights. 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”.²

In spite of having such constitutional obligation, human rights are drastically violated in the country. In June 2016, human rights have been infringed against women, children, minority groups, journalists, political activists, laymen, and other good citizens of the country. The situation reached to such abysmal state that even the common people feel insecure everywhere whether it’s their bedroom or street.

HSRC agrees with prominent human rights experts that massive corruption in state machinery, the politicization of administration, weakness of judiciary, and culture of impunity are liable for the worse law and order situation in the country. Moreover, it’s also claimed that political patronization and shelter of criminals lead to human rights violation in the country.

¹ Human rights and governance training manual by manusher jonno. Page o3,

² http://bdlaws.minlaw.gov.bd/print_sections_all.php?id=367

EXTRA JUDICIAL KILLING

Extrajudicial killing is an arbitrary or unlawful deprivation of life and simply murder. This is the killing of a person by governmental authorities without the sanction of any judicial proceeding or legal process.³Bangladesh has earned notoriety in carrying out extrajudicial killings. ‘Crossfire’ or ‘encounter’ and gunfight are very common terms used by the LEA to hide their crime and avoid the liabilities of extra-judicial killing. After killing in a pre-planned and cool head, the police and RAB⁴ authorities have informed the media that the victim’s died to engage in the crossfire. These extra-judicial killings are depriving the people to their rights to lives and right to get justice in neutral open court.⁵The government of Bangladesh is violating the constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights day after day since 2002 especially when the operation clean heart started. Now the situation is becoming more complex day by day.

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, the rights to life and personal liberty are under threat in Bangladesh, despite of the fact that they are guaranteed by the constitution of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh the constitutions. The existing legal framework does not allow encounter killing.

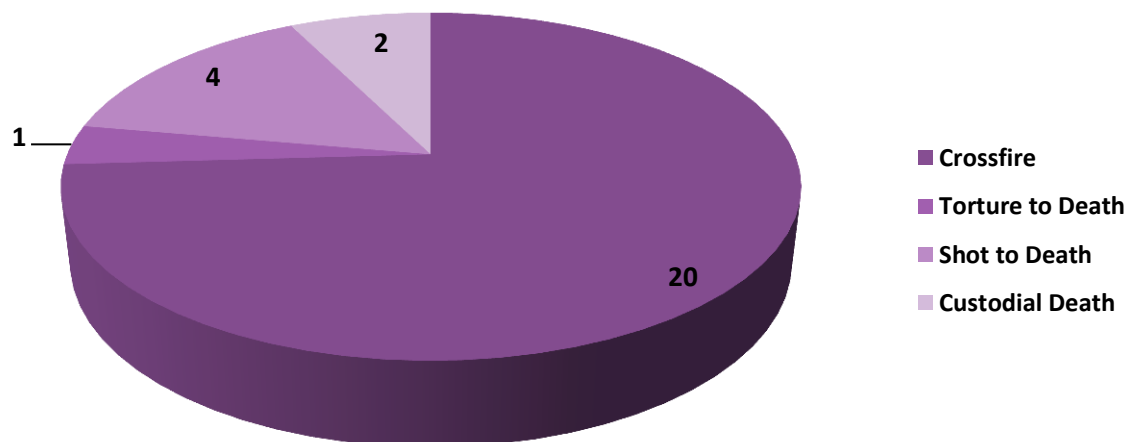


Figure 01: Extra-Judicial Killing in June 2016

The given flow chart provides information about the extra-judicial killing scenario in June 2016: According to human rights support center (HRSC) report, a total of 27 persons were alleged kill extra-judicially. Out of them, 20 people were killed in the name of ‘crossfire/ gunfights’, 04 were shot to death, one torture to death and 02 have died in the custody.

³ <http://www.lawteacher.net/free-law-essays/constitutional-law>.
⁴ <http://www.lawteacher.net>
⁵ <http://www.lawteacher.net/free-law-essays/constitutional-law>.

Some important cases are mentioned below: On June 02, 2016 a suspected robber was killed in a reported gunfight with policemen at Muladi in Barisal. The deceased was identified as Salim Hawlader, 40, son of late Habibur Hawlader of village Chhabipur. He was the ringleader of the notorious ‘Salim Bahini’ in the locality, police said. Muladi police officer-in-charge Md Motiur Rahman said police arrested Salim in Sonamaddi Bandar area on Tuesday afternoon. According to his statement, police conducted drive along with Salim to recover arms when his accomplices carried out attack to snatch Salim at Amanatganj Bazar in Baliatali around 4:00am. An incident of gunfight occurred there where Salim died on the spot. His fellows managed to flee.⁶

On June 08, 2016 a suspected robber was killed in a ‘gunfight’ between his associates and lawmen near the office of multinational pesticide company Syngenta at Panchbaria on Jessore-Magura Road. The deceased was identified as Abdul Goni. The incident took place around 2:40am, Ilias Hossain, officer-in-charge of Kotwali police station, said. He said the unidentified ‘robber’, aged between 45 and 50, died on the spot in a ‘gunfight’ between his cohorts and a police team while the gang was committing robbery on Jessore-Magura Road under Kotwali police station.⁷

On June 09, 2016 a regional leader of the outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party was killed in a so called gunfight with police at Tala in Satkhira. The deceased was Mozaffar Sana, 50, son of Abdul Gaffar Sana, a resident of village Dohar. He was a listed criminal and wanted in 18 cases including of four murders, police said.⁸

On June 10, 2016 an alleged robber was killed in a reported gunfight between his cohorts and police at village Dighalia Dokkhinpara in Lohagara of Narail. The deceased was identified as Rakib, 30, son of Mokles Hossain, a resident of village Chanchai. Officer-in-charge of Lohagara police station Biplab Kumar Saha said responding to a tip-off that a gang of robbers were taking preparation to commit robbery in the area; a team of police launched a drive there around 2:30am.⁹

On June 14, 2016 Two alleged criminals accused of involvement in the murder of a newly-elected union parishad chairman were killed in a ‘gunfight’ with police on the Gopalpur-Konchkuri road in Bhadsha union of sadar upazila. The deceased were identified as Munir Hossain, 32, son of Lutfor Rahman, a resident of Konchkuri village, and Mohammad Sohail Hossain, 35, son of Nurul Islam, a resident of Chawalpaa village of the union. They were accused in the murder of AK Azad, newly elected chairman of Bhadsha union.¹⁰

On June 17, 2016 Golam Faizullah Fahim, an accused in the case of attempt to murder a Madaripur teacher by hacking, was killed in a ‘gunfight’ in Madaripur sadar. The reported gunfight took place hours after Fahim, an 18-year-old college student from Dhaka, was put

⁶ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=16527&cat=9/>

⁷ <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2016/06/08/71584.html>

⁸ <http://newagebd.net/234668/pbcp-leader-killed-satkhira-gunfight/>

⁹ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/06/11/15792>

¹⁰ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=18575&cat=3>

on 10-day interrogation under police custody. Madaripur police super Sarwar Hossain said they conducted a drive with Fahim based on his statements in Miar Char area around 7:30am. Assailants, all of a sudden, opened fire from inside a jute field on the police vehicle, prompting policemen to retaliate, triggering a gunfight, he said. Fahim tried to escape seizing the opportunity of chaos, added the SP. After the gunfight, he was found bullet-wounded and taken to Madaripur General Hospital where physicians declared him dead, the SP said.¹¹

On June 21, 2016 an alleged robber was killed in a “gunfight” between police and his cohorts in Sarail upazila of Brahmanbaria. The dead is Abdus Sattar, 30, of College Para village in the upazila. Rupok Kumar Saha, officer-in-charge of Sarail Police Station, said acting on a tip-off that some robbers, including Sattar, were preparing to commit robbery in Gonara village, police raided the village around 1:30am. Sensing the presence of police, the robbers opened fire on them. The law enforcers then returned fire, triggering the “gunfight”, the police official added. Sattar was caught in the line of fire and died on the spot. Others managed to flee.¹²

On June 21, 2016 an alleged robber was killed in a reported gunfight between his cohorts and police at Bunara village in Sarail upazila. The deceased was identified as Abdus Sattar, 30, a resident of Kalikachchho Rifiujipara village of the upazila. Officer-in-charge of Nabinagar police station Rupok Kumar Saha said police arrested Sattar from his house in Kalikachchho Rifiujipara village in the evening. Based on his information, a team of police along with Sattar conducted a drive in Bunara village to recover arms at about 12:45am. Sensing the presence of the law enforcers, associates of Sattar opened fire at them, prompting the police personnel to retaliate that triggered a gunfight.¹³

On June 23, 2016 a suspected robber was killed in a “gunfight” with police at Purba Shakharia in Banaripara upazila of Barisal. The deceased was identified as Dulal, 35, son of Ismail Hossain, a resident of Chandipur village in Babuganj upazila. Law enforcers conducted a drive around 1:45am, said Ziaul Ahsan, officer-in-charge of Banaripara Police Station. Sensing the presence of police, the robbers opened fire at them, forcing the law enforcers to retaliate. At one stage, Dulal received one bullet and died on the spot.¹⁴

On June 25, 2016 an alleged robber was killed in a “gunfight” with members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in Char Chandia union of Sonagazi upazila. The dead was identified as Masud alias Gabba Masud, 30. A criminal on the list of the home ministry, Masud was accused in several cases, including for murder and robbery, with Sonagazi and other police stations.¹⁵

¹¹ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/891634/শেখার>

¹² <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/robber-killed-gunfight-police-1243417>

¹³ <http://bangla.samakal.net/2016/06/21/220004>

¹⁴ <http://newagebd.net/237326/robber-killed-barisal-gunfight-2/>

¹⁵ <http://www.dailyayadiganta.com/detail/news/130929#sthash.VOKov6Hr.dpuf>

ARBITRARY ARREST

Right against arbitrary arrest and detention is one of the important elements of human rights emphasized by numerous international human rights provisions. In 1948, the right against arbitrary arrest and detention has been recognized by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) which states that ‘no one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile’(article-09). Thereafter, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 1966 (ICCPR), declares: ‘Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention. No one shall be deprived of his liberty except on such grounds and in accordance with such procedure as are established by law’.

In Bangladesh, the right against arbitrary arrest and detention has been emphatically recognized by the Constitution in Art 33(1) & (2), which declares: (1) ‘No person who is arrested shall be detained in custody without being informed, as soon as June be, of the grounds for such arrest, nor shall he be denied the right to consult and be defended by a legal practitioner of his choice’.

The Constitution of Bangladesh has guaranteed the right against arbitrary arrest and detention as a fundamental right. Nevertheless, the violation of this right by the executive authorities, particularly by the law enforcing agencies is a common phenomenon in Bangladesh. Within seven days of announcing a crackdown on Islamist militants, Security forces between June 10 -16, have reportedly arrested over 14,552 in connection with a spate of murders of bloggers with secular or atheist leanings, non-Muslims, members of the LGBT community, and other progressive or liberal thinkers. But the problem is, less than 2 percent of those picked up are suspected radicals, and not one is considered to be a high-level operative. The rest, Most are accused of petty crimes such as theft, burglary or small-time drug smuggling. At least 5,000 are members of the main opposition party including BNP, Jamat-Shibir, and others political organization according to information of HRSC.

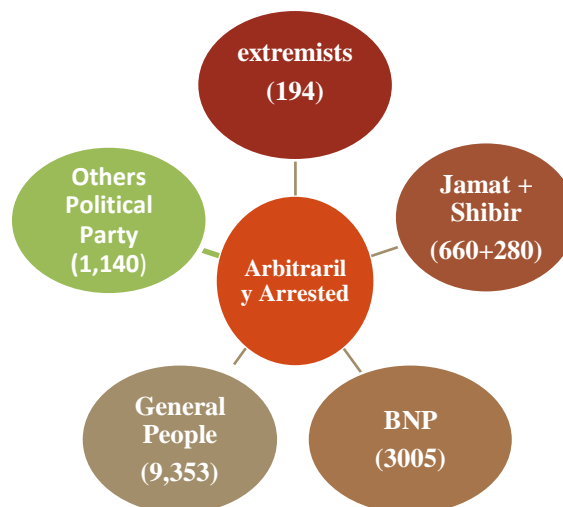


Figure 4: Arbitrary Arrest from 10-16 June 2016

According to information of media and the source of human rights support center (HRSC), the supplied graph provides information about ‘Arbitrary Arrest’ from June 10 to June 16, 2016; a total 14,552 people were arbitrarily arrested without proper evidence of a crime, after authorities launched countrywide mass crackdown in the wake of rising attacks in the region, among them almost 660 and 280 were Jamaat and Shibir respectively, around 3005 were BNP and Approximately 194 were extremists as well as nearly 10,413 from others political organization and general people.

Selected cases are as follows: On June 17, 2016 Police arrested a pro-Jamaat lawyer in Rajshahi city's Kajla area on the charge of being involved in subversive activities. Hasan Al-Banna Sohag, 32, is a lawyer of Rajshahi Judge Court, said Ashok Chowhan, officer-in-charge of Motihar Police Station. He appeared for Jamaat leaders facing war crime charges. Sohag is a brother of Shahadat Hossain, a leader of Islami Chhatra Shibir who was killed in “crossfire” in 2013.¹⁶

On June 12, 2016 Police detained an Islami Chhatra Shibir leader in connection with the killing of Nityaranjan Pande, volunteer of a Hindu Ashram. The detained, Md Ariful Islam, 23, son of Abdus Sattar of Char Ghoshpur village, is undergoing treatment at Pabna General Hospital. He is the general secretary of Pabna district west unit of Shibir, student front of Jamaat-e-Islami.¹⁷

¹⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/pro-jamaat-rajshahi-lawyer-arrested-1241521>

¹⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/shibir-leader-held-pabna-1238734>

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Violence against women and girls is one of the most systematic and widespread human rights violations. It is rooted in every social structure rather than individual and random acts; it cuts across age, socio-economic, educational and geographic boundaries; affects all societies; which are the major obstacle to ending gender inequality and discrimination globally.¹⁸ In 1993, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, The United Nations defines violence against women as “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life”.¹⁹ Violence against women is a main social problem in contemporary Bangladesh. Inhuman attacks on women have become commonplace and widespread across the country. Daily news reports are filled with atrocities including physical and psychological torture, sexual harassment, sexual assault, rape, dowry-related violence, trafficking, coerced suicide and murder. The rate of reported violent acts against women has risen steadily and at an alarming rate, especially in June 2016. HRSC provides the following data has been taken from 12 prominent daily newspapers in Bangladesh.

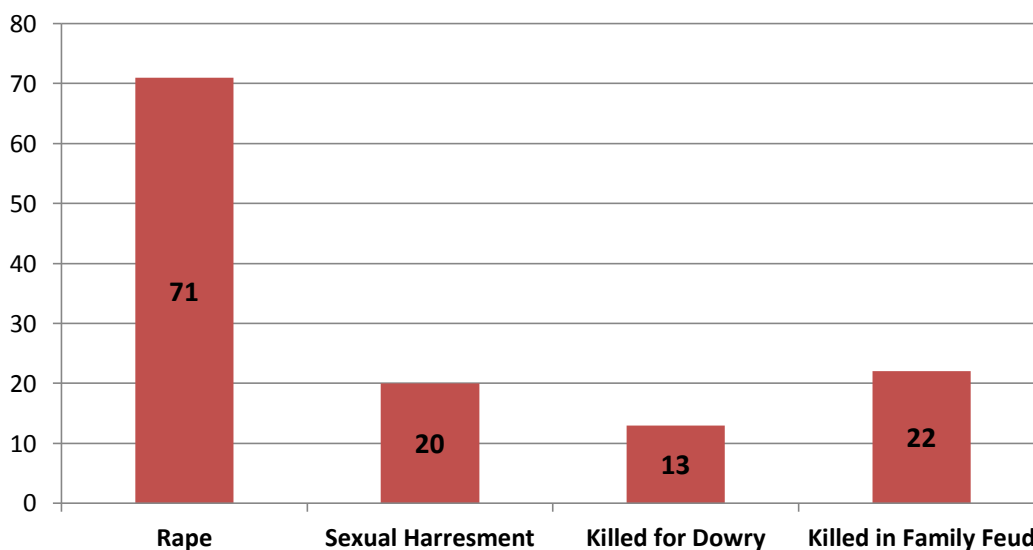


Figure 02: Violence against Women in June '16

HRSC detects the whole situation of female in Bangladesh and documented the issues relating to the violation of women rights. The major subjects of violation against women were dowry killings, rape, sexual harassment and stalking, acid attacks, physical and mental abuse.

¹⁸ (UN General Assembly, 2006)

¹⁹ (General Assembly Resolution 48/104 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, 1993)

According to the HRSC the supplied graph illustrates about information of violence against women in June 2016 in Bangladesh are detailed below:

Rape

- A total number of 71 females were raped in June 2016. Among of them 57 were victims of single rape and 14 were subjected to gang rape and 15 were children below the age of 16 (including single and gang rape). Approximately 08 were killed after being raped. On the other hand; around 11 incidents have been attempted to rape.

Killed in Family Feud

- About 22 women were killed in the family feud and 11 females have been injured. Of them, 33 were an incident of Family Feud.

Dowry Related Violence

- Approximately 16 incidents of dowry-related violence were reported in June 2016. About 13 were killed and around 03 women were physically abused over dowry demands.

Sexual Haressment

- According to information collected by HRSC, a total of 20 girls and women were reportedly victims of sexual harassment in June 2016. Among them, 15 were assaulted and 05 were stalked.

Some important cases are cited: A schoolgirl was raped allegedly by a youth at Jhitka Gachhipara village in Harirampur upazila in Manikganj on 4th June 2016. The victim said that Milton Hajari (22) of the village entered my room on Friday afternoon, tied hands and legs and raped me. He also threatened me with death if I disclosed the matter to anyone. Nazrul Islam, officer-in-charge of Harirampur Police Station, said they are yet to get any compliant in this regard.²⁰

A speech-impaired girl was allegedly raped in Waliar Birulia village of Savar on 8th June 2016. Our local representative said Suruj Gazi (35) of the village raped the 23-year-old girl alluring her of marriage. Hearing her screams locals rescued her. Following the incident victim's mother filed a case accusing Suruj. Officer-in-Charge of Savar Model Police Station SM Kamruzzaman said the victim was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.²¹

²⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/schoolgirl-raped-manikganj-1234453>

²¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/speech-impaired-girl-raped-savar-1236688>

A woman, aged around 35, and her college-going daughter have allegedly been gang-raped in a trawler at Bauphal upazila in Patuakhali on 12th June 2016. The victims are from the Hindu community. Local and police said that the victims went from their Kachipara village to Kalaiya area to visit a park. They came out of the park and got onto a hired bike to go to the house of a relative at a nearby village. However, the biker took them to Nindi launch ghat instead. He along with five other youths forcibly made the victims board a trawler where they were gang raped later.²²

A housewife was gang-raped in Haribasantapur village under Akkelpur upazila of Joypurhat district on 18th June 2016. Her husband, a day labourer, filed a rape case with Akkelpur Police Station on Friday, accusing three youth of the village. They were Minarul Islam (25), son of Abdus Salam, Sumon Mia (26), son of Nabir Khalifa, and Akash Hossain (22), son of Abdul Mamun. Police, quoting the victim, said the trio entered the victim's house when she was alone. They threatened her with a sharp weapon and raped her.²³

A housewife was strangled allegedly by her husband at Darsha village under Dhobaura upazila of the Mymensingh on 7th June 2016. The victim was identified as Champa Begum (25) daughter of late Idris Ali of the village. Local and police said Mohammad Ali (38) hailing from Manikganj district, married Champa eight years ago following a love affair. But one year after the marriage, Champa learnt that Ali had married twice before and divorced both wives, who created a serious family feud. The family feud caused quarrels between Champa. Ali have might strangled Champa following an altercation and fled the scene, police said. Victim's mother Mazeda Khatun lodged a case with Dhobaura Police Station, accusing Ali.²⁴

A woman was stabbed to death allegedly by her husband in Kathgora Durgapur of Ashulia on 07th June 2016. The victim was identified as Mousumi Begum, 22, was an RMG worker. Local and a witness said that her rickshaw-puller husband Saddam Hossain attacked her with a sharp weapon from behind and fled the scene while Mousumi with her mother Rashida Begum was going to a market.²⁵

A female model allegedly committed suicide over a family feud in Dhaka Mohakhali on 07th June 2016. The victim was identified as Soheli Rahman Nitti (28) daughter of retired superintendent of police Motiur Rahman, hang herself from a ceiling fan in her residence following an altercation with her husband, said Sridham Chandra Roy, sub-inspector of Banani police, quoting her husband Abhijit Bachhi. However, locals saw Abhijit beating Nitti after entering their house, witnesses told the police. According to her father Motiur, as her first marriage did not work out, she married Abhijit without family consent. Two days back Nitti told her father that she was in an abusive marriage and was often beaten by Abhijit,²⁶

²² <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/girl-mother-gang-raped-trawler-1238710>

²³ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/woman-gang-raped-joypurhat-3-held-1241875>

²⁴ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/housewife-strangled-over-family-feud-1235860>

²⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/woman-killed-husband-ashulia-1236094>

²⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/female-model-commits-suicide-over-family-feud-1240453>

A mother alone with her progenitor has been left from house enforcedly due to dowry related issue by her husband in Rupgonj upozilla Nararagonj district on 2th June 2016. The victim was Shahnaj begum, daughter of Sanaulah Mia. Rubel and Shahnaj begum have got married one year and six months ago. In the meantime rubel created pressure to his wife to bring taka 50 thousand from her father. Her father fulfills rubel,d demand. Rubel again demands taka 20 thousand. At one stage he beaten his wife and enforcedly dispel from the house.²⁷

A housewife has been killed by her husband due to family feud I n Ashulia on 6th June 2016. The victim was identified as Mowshumi, daughter of Fajlur Rahman in the naogan district. Police said that Mowshumi along with mother went to local market, at that moment Saddam, her husband hit her from back and fled. Mowshumi died on the spot. Police said they were preparing for registering a case against Saddam.²⁸

A housewife has been beaten to death due to dowry related issue in Pabna on 6th June 2016. The victim was identified as Mukta Khatun (27). She called her brother and appealed to save her form severe torture due to dowry. Local said that Mukta was beaten severely by her husband, elder brother of her husband (powerful local Awami leader). At one stage she was dead then her bridal relative's poured poison into her mouth and brought to medical.²⁹

²⁷ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=16699&cat=9/>

²⁸ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/06/07/15362>

²⁹ <http://www.jugantor.com/news/2016/06/07/36936>

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.”³⁰

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):

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.³¹

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 during the first three months of 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.

³⁰ UDHR-1948, article 19

³¹ ICCPR-1966, article 19

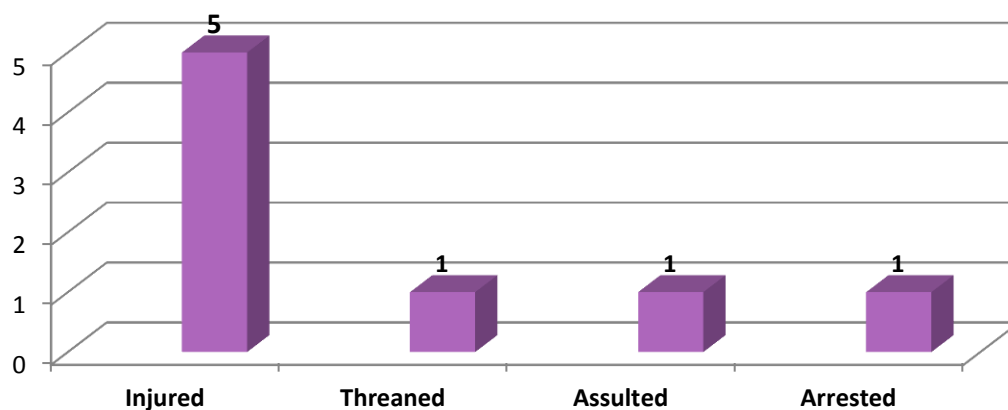


Figure 03: Attack on Journalist

The journalists and the media constant were to be victims of attacks, physically assaulted, threatened and intimidated from different powerful quarters, especially from the government and the ruling party leaders and activists. The flow chart illustrates information about the attack on journalism in June. According to HRSC’s documented statistics, around 05 were injured, nearly 01 was threatened, about 01 was arrested and 01 was assaulted.

Selected cases are as described here: On June 09, 2016 Jahangirnagar University (JU) unit activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) allegedly beat up a campus reporter while he was trying to rescue a young woman from an alleged abductor in front of the main entrance of the campus. The injured, Shafiqul Islam, is a JU correspondent of the online news portal ‘www.bdnews24.com’ and a fourth-year student of the department of Journalism and Media Studies, said campus sources, adding that he is also an assistant general secretary of JU unit Students Union. Witnesses said a man, identified as Golam Sarwar, was trying to kidnap the woman on his bike. In a bid to escape, she jumped off it and screamed for help. Shafiq and some other campus journalists, who were present there, came to her rescue and took them to the university security office near the gate, they added. Sarwar then called someone from his mobile phone and soon a group of BCL men led by Mohitosh Roy Tito, the religion affairs secretary of JU BCL, appeared, alleged witnesses. They got engaged in an altercation with the students and at one point attacked Shafiq with iron chain and rods, according to the witnesses.³²

On June 18, 2016 a journalist was allegedly beaten up by a Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activist on a campus-bound shuttle train of Chittagong University. The injured was Joy Das, CU correspondent of a local daily Priyo Chhottogram. Joy, a third-year student of Communication and Journalism Department, said BCL activist Md Faruk, loyal to CU BCL General Secretary Fazly Rabby Sujon, sat beside him on the train. “When I told him to sit apart from me due to an unpleasant smell coming from him, he attacked me despite giving my identity as a journalist,” Joy said.³³

³² <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=17650>

³³ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/bcl-man-assaults-journo-cu-1241902>

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.”

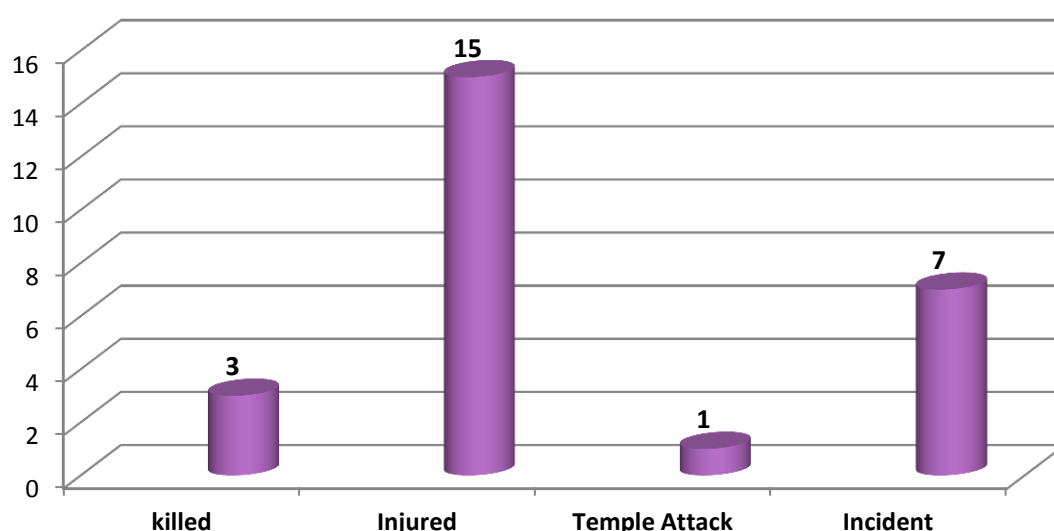


Figure 04: Statistics of attack on minority

The pie chart provides information about the incidents regarding attacks on minority, according to information collected by HRSC in June 2016, at least 03 men were killed and 15 minority members were injured in a total of 07 incidents.

Selected cases are as described here: On June 05, 2016 a septuagenarian Christian grocer was hacked to death at his store, adjacent to his house at Baraigram upazila headquarters in Natore, hours after suspected militants had shot dead the wife of a counter-terrorism police official in Chittagong. Hours after the hacking death of Sunil Gomez, the SITE Intel Group claimed ‘Amaq Agency of #ISIS reported that ISIS fighters killed a Christian named Sunil Gomes in Bonpara village in northwestern #Bangladesh.’ On information, the police went to the spot and recovered the body containing several stab marks. Police said they were yet to ascertain the motive behind the killing.³⁴

³⁴ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/879715/>

On June 07, 2016 three assailants on a motorcycle hacked to death a sexagenarian Hindu priest on his way to a local temple at remote village Karatipara in Jhenaidah apparently in a sequel of recent killings. The killing of Anado Gopal Ganguly, 69, took place just two days after militancy suspects on a motorcycle had hacked and shot to death the wife of a counter-terrorism unit police official Babul Akhter in Chittagong. Few hours after the murder, US-based SITE Intel Group claimed, ‘Amaq Agency of #ISIS reported that ISIS fighters killed a Hindu priest in Jhenaidah district of western #Bangladesh.’ Anado’s nephew Dinbandhu Ganguly said that being informed over mobile phone they found his uncle in a pool of blood on the rural road that connected Karatipara with other villages at about 9:15am. ‘The assailants slit his throat,’ he said. Quoting witnesses, Dinbandhu said that the priest was found killed after three unidentified assailants on a motorcycle, who were waiting near the village, left the area. Dinbandhu said his uncle was going to attend scheduled rituals by a bicycle from his village home. He said, ‘We have no enmity with anyone and we are clueless about why my uncle got killed.’³⁵

On June 09, 2016 an attendant of a Hindu monastery was hacked to death by unknown assailants at HeJuneetpur in Pabna sadar apparently in a sequel of recent killings. The fresh victim Nityaranjan Pandey, 62, was the attendant of Sri Sri Anukul Chandra Monastery. He had been serving there for 40 years. Pabna sadar police officer-in-charge Abdullah Al Hasan said that the victim was walking beside the monastery around 5:00am when assailants swooped on him. They hacked his nape of neck and head indiscriminately, leaving him dead on the spot. US-based SITE Intelligence claimed that Islamic State group and ‘Bangladesh branch of Al-Qaeda’ had claimed responsibility for the killings and attacks.³⁶

On June 13, 2016 A 55-year-old Hindu priest of Jessore had gone missing since the night of June 3. Pradip Mallick, the priest of Kathaltala Bhaskar Ananda Math under Dumuria upazila in the district, was heading to his Gourighona village home under Keshabpur upazila in Jessore when the family lost contact with him, around 9:30pm. The priest’s brother, Biddut Mallick, filed a general diary with the Keshabpur police in Jessore on June 11, eight days later into the incident.³⁷

On June 15, 2016 A Hindu college teacher was hacked inside his rented house near the college campus in Madaripur afternoon in a manner that matches the recent targeted killings and attacks. The attack on Government Nazimuddin College mathematics department lecturer Ripon Chakrabarty took place within a span of less than a week after the killing of Nitya Ranjan Pandey, 62, a monastery worker of Sri Sri Thakur Anukul Chandra Satsanga in Pabna. Ripon was under treatment at Madaripur district hospital and later moved to Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital in Barisal for better treatment, said Madaripur hospital’s resident medical officer Shashangka Chandra Ghosh. The physician said the victim sustained cuts in the head from a sharp weapon.³⁸

³⁵ <http://www.bd-pratidin.com/country/2016/06/07/149520#sthash.5gmGu6AU.dpuf>

³⁶ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/06/10/15676>

³⁷ <http://newagebd.net/235414/hindu-priest-missing/>

³⁸ <http://newagebd.net/235803/hindu-college-teacher-hacked/>

TERRITORIAL DISPUTE

Bangladesh is surrounded by India on three sides. Bangladesh needs a better relation with India for its own existence. But Indian behavior with Bangladesh is not so amicable. Human rights are 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 the borders between Bangladesh and India. 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 delightful border in the world. However, we have frequently observed that India has been violating treaties, shooting at anyone seen near the border, which is a pure violation of the international act and human rights.

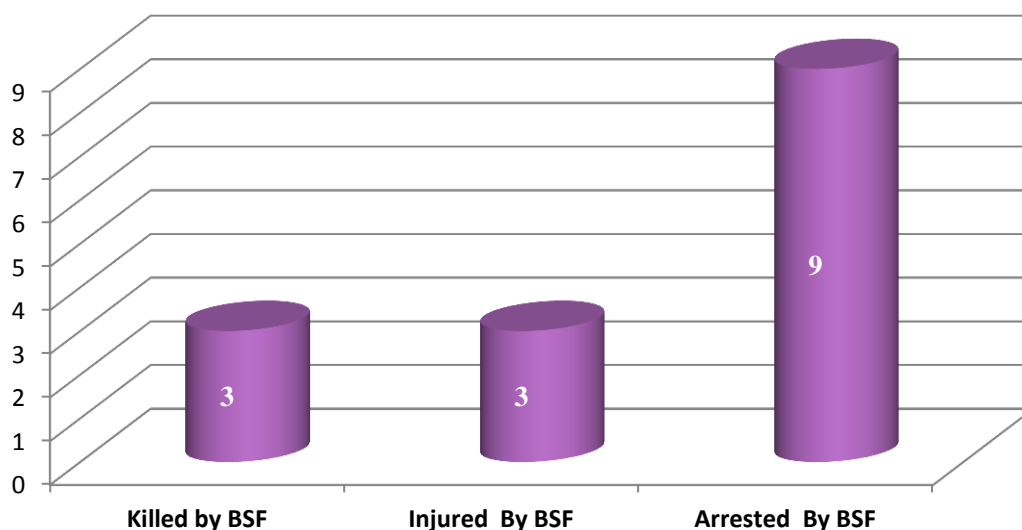


Figure 05: Territorial Dispute

The given pie chart gives data on the border dispute. According to HRSC in June 2016, roughly 03 Bangladeshis citizen were killed, almost 04 were injured by BSF, and roughly 03 have been arrested by BSF.

Some important cases are mentioned below; On June 06, 2016 A Bangladeshi national was found dead in the Ichhamati River inside Indian Territory near Putkhali border in Benapole. The deceased is Guljar Hossain, 55, son of Atab Ali of Putkhali. Lt Col Arifur Rahman, commanding officer of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) 21- Battalion, said locals found his body floating in the river and informed BGB. Indian Border Security Force (BSF) recovered the body and sent it to Gaighata Hospital morgue in India, BGB added.³⁹

On June 13, 2016 an alleged smuggler was injured as members of Border Security Force in India opened fire on a gang he belonged to in Jamalpur border area of Daulatpur in Kushtia. The injured was identified as Azam, 20, son of Rafiq, a resident of Pakuria Shakuntola Bazar

³⁹ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/06/06/15277>

area adjacent to the border. Naik subedar Abdur Razzak of Jamalpur border outpost under Border Guard Bangladesh 47 battalion said a patrol team of BSF from Nasirapara camp under Hogolbaria thana of Nadiya district in West Bengal opened fire on the gang while they were entering Raidanga border area of India around 9:30pm, leaving Azam injured.⁴⁰

On June 19, 2016 Two Bangladeshi nationals were killed by the members of the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) as they opened fire on them along Charaldanga bordering area in Gomostapur upazila. The deceased were identified as Jabdul Haq Bhadu, 32, son of Daud Ali of Radhanagar village and Shahjahan Ali Bhuttu, 33, son of Hukmat Ali of Debpur village in the upazila. Local people said the BSF members of Anuradhapur camp opened fire on some Bangladeshi nationals when they went to the bordering area for bringing cattle from the neighbouring country around 2:00am, leaving Bhadu and Shahjahan dead on the spot.⁴¹

⁴⁰ <http://newagebd.net/235475/smuggler-shot-bsf-kushia/>

⁴¹ http://www.amadershomoy.biz/unicode/2016/06/20/129317.htm#.V2e2ozVQf_g

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

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, and hygiene. Most of the children of Bangladesh are deprived of these basic rights. Children have 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 development⁴³.

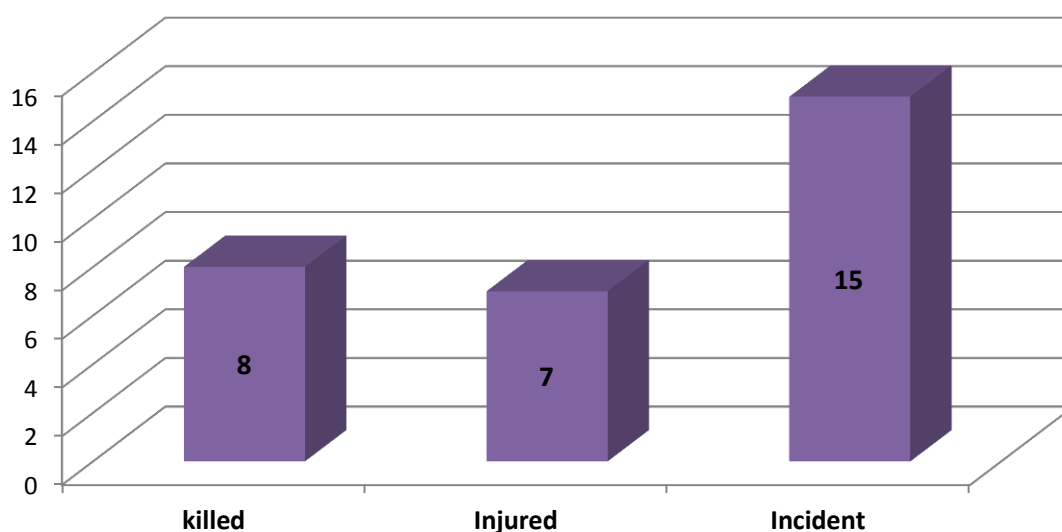


Figure 06: Violence against children

According to HRSC report, the graph presented below regarding the violence against children June 2016, around 08 children's were killed and almost 07 children's have been critically injured in a total of nearly 15 incidents of Violence against Children.

Some important cases are mentioned below; an infant has been killed by some miscreant at Shatkania in Chittagong on 11 June 2016. He was Mehdi Hassan Rosni, 8 months old, son of Munjor Alom. Victim relatives said that Rashni along with his parents went from a medical by a CNG. There was bargaining due to disagreement for the fare. At one stage the driver along with his friends beaten Rashini,s father and mother. In spite of effort Roshni was stocked and injured and dead at a private clinic. The officer in charge at Chokoria thana inspected this family and keep word to detain the culprits promptly.⁴⁴

A school boy was killed by beaten with iron sheet in Norshindhi on 11 June 2016. The victim was Moin Uddin (14), reading in Aligan GM academy in class nine. The witness said that Moin Uddin,s cousin Shahin lost his expensive mobile phone. Shahin suspect Roxy for

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 <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/06/12/16001/>

stealing the phone. At one stage there was a class between two groups and Hohi Uddin was severely injured and admitted at Dhaka medical college hospital at the severe condition and dead after few days.⁴⁵

A 22-month-old baby girl was killed allegedly by her father at Azaipur in the district town on 19th June 2016. Police and locals said victim Mahiya was staying at her grandmother's room. On that day, her father Mahbub Hasan Babu (26) entered the room. He hit her head with a brick. She died on the spot, said Sub-Inspector Aminul Islam of Sadar Police Station. The body was sent to Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy, the SI said, adding that they arrested Babu.⁴⁶

The dead body of a house keeper was rescued at Bashabo in the capital on 15th June 2016. The victim was Nilufer Akter (10). Police rescued the hanged dead body of the victim. Police also detained house owner and his wife. They also side she committed suicide. Police were taking preparation for an autopsy.⁴⁷

⁴⁵ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/06/12/16001/>

⁴⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/2-year-old-girl-killed-father-1242493>

⁴⁷ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=18718&cat=10/>

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 a result, the incident of public lynching became a banal matter. HRSC believes that everyone has right to be considered as innocent until proven guilty by the court.

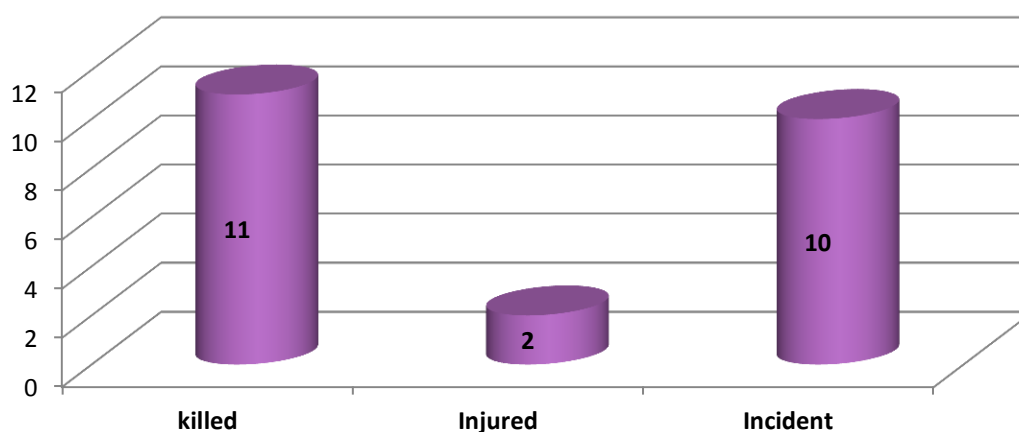


Figure 07: Public Lynching

According to human rights support center (HRSC) information, in June 2016, about 02 people have been injured; nearly 11 people were killed in a total of 10 incidents of the public lynching.

Some important cases are given below- On June 02, 2016 a mob beat a youth to death on suspicion of stealing a mobile phone in Padua village under Lohagara upazila of Chittagong. Police said some brick kiln workers at Fariadir Kul beat Md Mohiuddin, 26, of Padua village to death suspecting him of stealing a mobile phone. Police detained 14 workers in this connection and sent the body to Chittagong Medical College Hospital for an autopsy.⁴⁸

On June 15, 2016 three unidentified ‘robbers’ were lynched at Krishnanagar under Jhikargachha upazila in Jessore the district. Mollah Khabir Ahmed, officer-in-charge, Jhikargachha police station, that three unidentified ‘robbers’ were ‘lynched’ while they were committing robbery in a residence at Wapda Road of Krishnanagar around 1:30am. The police later recovered the bodies and took them to Jessore Medical College Hospital for an autopsy. But locals raised questions about the ‘mob beating’ of the so-called robbers in the dead of night while people were in deep sleep after saying tarawi prayers.⁴⁹

On June 17, 2016 a youth was beaten to death by miscreants at village Pakarmatha of Pirgacha sadar upazilla in Rangpur. The deceased was Rubel Hossain, 23, son of Shahanur

⁴⁸ <http://newagebd.net/233551/youth-beaten-dead-in-ctg/>

⁴⁹ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/06/15/16250/>

Ali of the village. The police, quoting witnesses, said some miscreants attacked Rubel after he went to the Pakarmatha bazaar near his house in the morning and beat him indiscriminately, leaving him dead on the spot. Pirgacha police officer-in-charge Aminul Islam said no case was filed so far.⁵⁰

ABDUCTION

Abduction is a brutal violation of human rights. Abduction, Kidnapping, killing after the abduction, etc. are the common phenomena in Bangladesh. Nobody could confidently predict his safe return after going outside of his resident. The numbers of victims, according to HRSC report is increasing day by day. In June 2016, the occurrences of abduction increased all over the country. 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 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 graph provides information about the total abduction in June 2016.

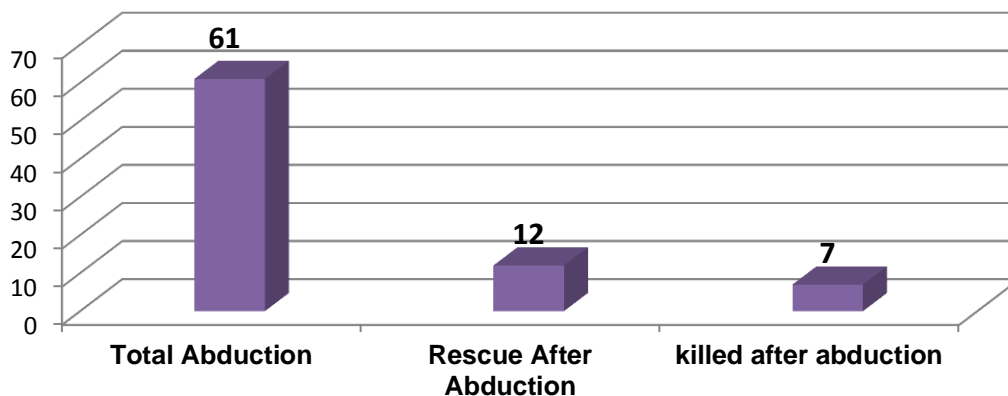


Figure 08: Statistics of Abduction June’16

The supplied bar diagram describes information about the abduction cases in June 2016 in Bangladesh, According to the human rights support center (HRSC) information, a total of 61 people were abducted, among of them, 07 were killed after the abduction. On the other hand, nearly 12 people were rescued by law enforcement agencies after the abduction.

On June 17, 2016 a man was found dead a day after he went missing in Pirgachha upazila of Rangpur. Rubel Hossain, 25, of Amdara village was a barber. Family members said Rubel returned home from the capital five days ago. On Thursday evening he went outside the home but did not return. The next morning, his body was found hanging from a tree near his house. Police said Rubel might have been killed over the previous enmity. A case was filed.⁵¹

⁵⁰ <http://newagebd.net/236196/youth-beaten-death/>

⁵¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/missing-man-found-dead-rangpur-1241533>

On June 18, 2016 a custodian of Dumuria temple in Khulna was found hanging in a tree, 13 days into his missing, against the backdrop of slaying priests and members of religious minorities, across the country. The man Prodip Kumar Mallick, 47, had gone missing on June 4 on his way home from the temple. The brother of the man, Bidyut Mallick, had filed a general diary with Keshabpur police on June 7.⁵²

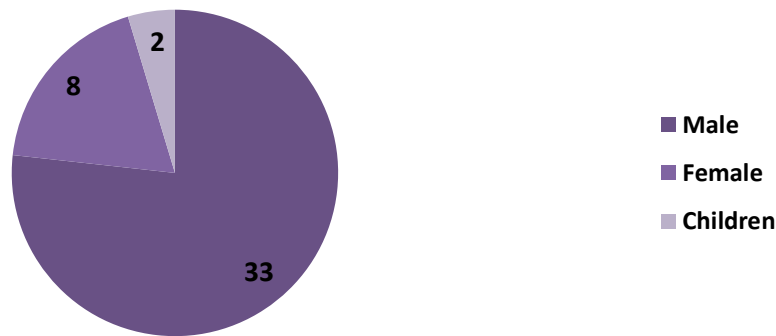


Figure 09: Categorization of Abduction

The given pie chart describes information about the abduction cases in June 2016 in Bangladesh, According to the human rights support center (HRSC) information, a total of 43 people were abducted, among of them, 33 were male, around 08 were female and nearly 02 were children.

Selected cases are as follows: On June 07, 2016 Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) rescued an abducted minor schoolgirl of the district from Narayanganj and arrested two people in this connection. The arrestees are Ashraful Islam, 25, and his accomplice Nazrul Islam, 28. The 12-year-old girl, a Class VII student of Mirzapur Moriom Girls' High School in Gopalpur upazila, was abducted from the school on August 10 last year, Mohammad Bellal Hossain, additional police superintendent of PBI in Tangail, said.⁵³

On June 09, 2016 a minor boy, who went missing a few days ago, was found dead in a water body at Kartikul in Arongghata area of the city. Quoting witnesses, police said locals spotted the body of Hashmi Mia, 9, son of Hafizur of Sardanga village, kept in a sack in the water body and informed them. Later, police recovered the body around 10:00am and sent it to Khulna Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.⁵⁴

On June 11, 2016 Police rescued an abducted housewife from a house in Muktagachha municipality of the district, five days after her abduction. The victim is Sabina Yeasmin, 32, wife of Rony Islam Munna of Paratongi area of the municipality. Police said Sabina, mother of two children, was on her way to a local bazar from her house last Sunday morning when one Sekandar Badsha allegedly waylaid her and forced her to get on a rickshaw. Sabina was kept captive at a house at Nandibari area of the municipality, said Abu Mohammad Fazlul Karim, officer-in-charge (OC) of Muktagachha Police Station.⁵⁵

⁵² <http://newagebd.net/236358/missing-temple-custodian-found-hanging-tree-jessore/>

⁵³ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/abducted-schoolgirl-rescued2-arrested-1235890>

⁵⁴ <http://www.bd-pratidin.com/city-news/2016/06/09/149900#sthash.0BY3Lae6.dpuf>

⁵⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/abducted-housewife-rescued-1238092>

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 from June 2016.

The bar chart provides information regarding the violent attack on armless civilian. According to the data in Human Rights Support Centre (HRSC) in June 2016, a total 62 incidents of violent attack have happened and 64 were killed in these attacks, 74 were seriously injured and around 12 persons have been bullet hit.

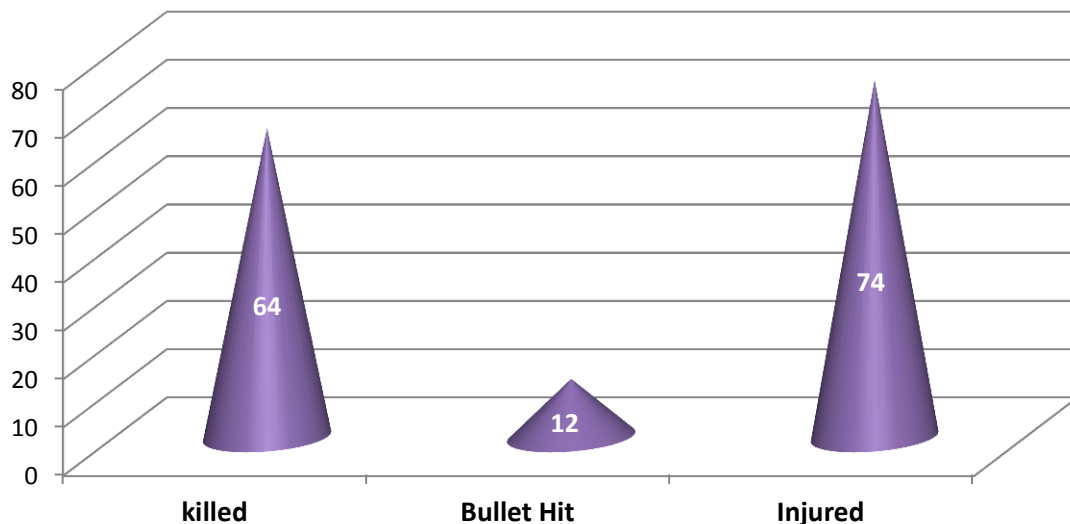


Figure 10: violent attack

Selected cases are as analysed: On June 02, 2016 unidentified miscreants shot a bKash agent at Mirerbazar in Gazipur city while he was collecting money from retail agents in the area. Tk 5 lakh was looted from him, claimed the victim, Md Ajmir, 22. Witnesses said three robbers on a motorbike attacked him. They shot him and took the bag containing money, said Mobarak Hossain of Pubail Outpost. He, however, said the looted amount was Tk 2 lakh, adding, Ajmir was sent to a hospital in the capital.⁵⁶

On June 04, 2016 a battery-run auto-rickshaw driver was hacked to death at Khetardanga point on Palashbari-Chawra bazar road. The deceased is Subidh Chandra Roy, 30, son of Dhonuram Roy of Gayandas Kanaikata village in Sadar upazila. Police and locals said a gang of two hired the auto-rickshaw of the victim from Palashbari bazar area to go to Chawra

⁵⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/another-bkash-agent-shot-robbed-1233541>

bazar four kilometers away from there. When the rickshaw reached near a bridge at Khetardanga point of Palasbari-Chawra road around 8:45pm, the duo attacked Roy with sharp weapons, leaving him critically injured and took away the vehicle.⁵⁷

On June 05, 2016 unidentified criminals killed an old woman at her Uttara house and looted gold ornaments and cash. Uttara Pashchim police sent the slit body of the victim to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy. The victim, Monwara Sultana, 65, wife of late Dr Abu Mohammad Yusuf, lived on the first floor of a five-storey building.⁵⁸

On June 05, 2016 Police officer Babul Akter led several anti-militancy drives, arrested many key militants, busted their dens and eventually foiled their attack plans. And these could be the reasons behind the murder of his wife in the port city, senior police officials said. Three attackers, who came on a motorcycle, first hacked and then shot Mahmuda Khanam Mitu to death before her six-year-old son. It happened just 200 yards from their house near GEC Intersection in Chittagong around 6:35am. Mitu, 30, was on her way to put her son Akter Mahmud Maheer on his school bus. The couple also has a four-year-old daughter.⁵⁹

On June 08, 2016 the body of a teenage boy was found with his throat slit in the district's Bochaganj upazila. The dead, Rafiqul Islam Riyad, 17, was the son of Abdul Baki of Hajipara village in the upazila. He passed Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination this year. Victim's family said Riyad went to a local mosque for offering his Tarabi prayers on Tuesday night. He told his family members that he would not return home and stay at the mosque. Later, locals found Riyad's body in a field nearby his house. Ruhul Amin, superintendent of police in Dinajpur, said Riyad came out of the mosque after getting a phone call. Criminals then killed him.⁶⁰

On June 10, 2016 unidentified assailants hacked a Juba League activist to death reportedly over the previous enmity in Library Bazar area in the district. The deceased, Md Munna Chowdhury, 35, son of Rawshan Ali of Gobinda area in the town, was going to settle a dispute among local boys; police said. Officer-in-Charge of Pabna Sadar police Abdullah Al Hasan said Munna's younger brother Rajib had a conflict with local boys. As Munna went there to settle the conflict, unidentified criminals hacked him indiscriminately around 9:00pm.⁶¹

On June 11, 2016 a college boy was hacked to death by unidentified miscreants at Dirghobhumi in Brahmanpara of Comilla. The deceased was identified as Ariful Islam Sumon, 17, second-year student of Mosharrif Hossain Chowdhury Degree College and son of Abu Taher, a resident of the village. Officer-in-charge of Brahmanpara Police Station SM Badiuzzaman said a gang of miscreants attacked Sumon in the area when he was going to the upazila town at about 10:30pm.⁶²

⁵⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/auto-rickshaw-driver-hacked-death-1234450>

⁵⁸ <https://www.dailyinqilab.com/details/22168/>

⁵⁹ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/879727/>

⁶⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/teenage-boy-killed-brutally-1236625>

⁶¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/jubo-league-man-hacked-death-1237771>

⁶² <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/06/12/15930>

On June 13, 2016 a young man was hacked to death by miscreants at Chandipur in Rajshahi city. The deceased was identified as Ahsan Habib Apel, 30, son of late Bakul of the area. Sources at Rajpara police station said a gang of miscreants attacked Apel in the area while he was returning home from his workplace early in the morning. At one stage, the attackers hacked him indiscriminately, leaving him dead on the spot.⁶³

On June 15, 2016 a college teacher was badly hacked inside his home in Madaripur, amid a countrywide crackdown against militants and criminals. Three men took part in the attack and one of them was caught by locals while fleeing. They later handed him over to the police. Police identified him as Golam Faizullah, of Chapainawabganj. Ripon Chakraborty, a lecturer of the mathematics department at Government Nazimuddin University College in Madaripur, was taking treatment at Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital.⁶⁴

On June 17, 2016 unidentified criminals shot dead a college student and injured three others in Batogram village in the district's Sonaimuri upazila. The dead, Asif Uddin Shanto, 23, son of Sahab Uddin Master, was a second-year student of Mathematics department at Noakhali Government College.⁶⁵

On June 18, 2016 a youth was hacked to death in Mirzapur upazila of the Tangail district. The deceased was identified as Samir Uddin Bulu, 28, son of Tota Miah of Haria village. Police said criminals attacked Bulu with sharp weapons, leaving him dead on the spot when he was going to the cattle shed at their house. The body was sent to Tangail Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.⁶⁶

⁶³ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/06/14/16134/>

⁶⁴ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=18753&cat>

⁶⁵ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=18940&cat=1>

⁶⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/youth-hacked-death-1241854>

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.⁶⁷ After assuming state power by Awami League Government through 5th March 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.

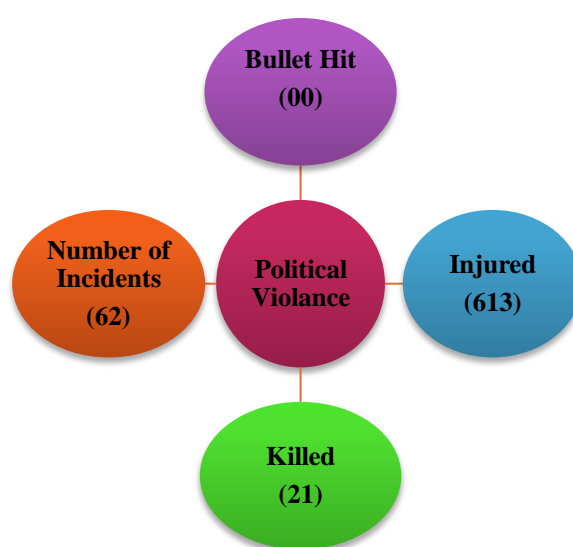


Figure 11: statistics of Political Violence in June '16

The figure presents information about the political violence in June 2016. According to Human Rights Support Centre (HRSC) information, a total of 21 people were killed, around 00 were bullet hit, and almost 613 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 June 19, 2016 three men of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal's (JCD) Dhaka University (DU) units were beaten up near Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) and handed over to Shahbagh police allegedly by Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists. JCD DU unit Joint Secretary Shahnewaz was interrogated and released while Toufiqul Islam and Moniruzzaman Mamun, joint conveners of JCD units in Fazlul Huq Muslim Hall and Salimullah Muslim Hall respectively, have been kept detained. BCL activists beat the three after chasing JCD leaders and activists gathering in front of DMCH's outdoor gate "protesting the prime minister's recent derogatory comments about BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman", said DU sources.⁶⁸

⁶⁷ Islam and Suykens, Distribution of Political Violence in Bangladesh 2016,

⁶⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/3-du-jcd-men-beaten-handed-over-police-bcl-1242436>

On June 19, 2016 At least eight activists were injured, including two suffering bullet wounds, during a clash between two Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) factions in Chittagong College. Of the injured, Nijhum Parial, 22, and Md Monir, 22, shot in the legs, and HuJuneun Tipu, 20, was admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital. Imran Ahmed Tipu, 24, Khademul Islam Durjoy, 22, Kanik Barua, 21, Jamal Uddin, 21, and Md Kayser, 19, were admitted to private hospitals. There is no BCL unit in the college. The warring factions claimed they were followers of Awami League Chittagong city unit President ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury and General Secretary AJM Nasir Uddin.⁶⁹

On June 12, 2016 a man was killed and two others were injured as two groups of local Awami League (AL) clashed at Panchghariyakandi village under Munshiganj Sadar upazila. The deceased is Mohammad Jony, 17, son of Monir Hossain, and the injured are Manik Sarkar, 30, and Saiyed Hossain Kalu, 31. Two groups of AL activists, led by Oaheduzzaman Babul and Jakir Hossain, clashed at around 11:30pm, said Biplob Bijoy Talukdar, Superintendent of Police (SP) of Munshiganj.⁷⁰

On June 13, 2016 An Awami League activist was killed and seven others were injured in a clash between two groups of the local unit of Awami League (AL) over establishing supremacy in Berabari area under Singra upazila of the Natore district. The deceased was identified as Rezaul Karim, 38. Rafiqul Islam, the assistant superintendent of police (ASP), said the two rival groups--one led by Rezaul Islam and the other by Anwar Hossain--locked in a clash at around 3:00pm, leaving eight people from both sides, including Rezaul, injured.⁷¹

On June 05, 2016 a teenage boy was killed and at least 25 others were injured during a post-polls clash between the supporters of Awami League and BNP in Chunarughat upazila of Habiganj. The dead is Monir Hossain, 15, son of Arju Mia of Norpati village. He was a student of class-VIII of a local high school. Locals said around 5:30pm, the clash erupted in Ramushree village when the supporters of defeated AL Chairman candidate in Chunarughat union with sticks attacked a victory procession of newly elected BNP chairman candidate Sayed Likat Hasan. At one stage, and Monir was wounded. He was taken to Habiganj Sadar Hospital where he died around 10:30pm.⁷²

on June 11, 2016 A young man was shot dead and two others were injured during a clash between supporters of a newly elected councilor and a defeated candidate of Munshiganj municipality. The deceased was identified as Mohammad Jony, 17. Munshiganj superintendent of police Biplob Bijoy Talukder said there had been a longstanding dispute between the supporters of elected councilor Jakir Hossain of the ward- 9 of the municipality and defeated councilor candidate Wahiduzzaman Babul.⁷³

⁶⁹ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/06/20/16803>

⁷⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/al-infighting-leaves-one-dead-2-injured-1238620>

⁷¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/one-killed-7-hurt-rival-al-men-clash-1239121>

⁷² <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/06/06/15266>

⁷³ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/06/12/15911/>

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.

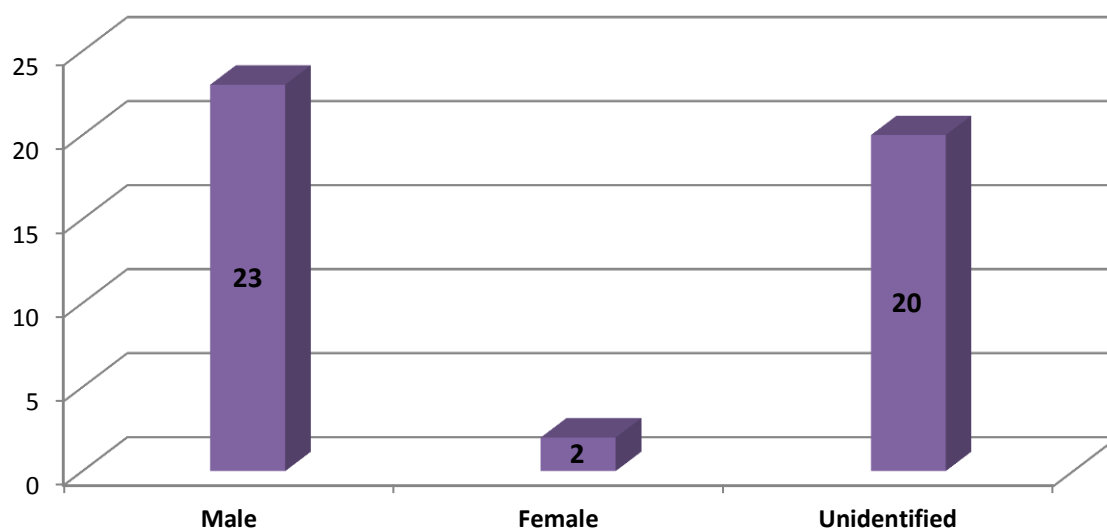


Figure 12: Recovery of Dead Body in June '16

The presented chart illustrates information about the recovery dead body. According to information collected by HRSC June 2016, a total of 44 dead bodies were found in the different area of the country, among of them 23 bodies were male and 02 bodies were female and 20 bodies were unidentified.

Selected cases are as follows: On June 01, 2016 Police found a man dead with his throat slit in his Modhubagh residence in Dhaka's Dakhinkhan. Abdul Barek, 37, a loader of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, used to live at the house with his first wife. He was home alone, said police. They found no clue to the murder, said police. No case was filed.⁷⁴

On June 01, 2016 Police recovered the body of a newborn baby from a drain in Shibganj of Sylhet city. Shahjalal Munshi, officer-in-charge of Shahporan Police Station, said locals first saw the body and informed them. On information, police recovered the body and sent it to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital.⁷⁵

On June 02, 2016 a boy was found dead in a waterbody which was being filled up with sand in Gazipur city's Konabari Jarur Baimile. Sribash Chandra, 11, had been missing since Wednesday afternoon after he had gone there to play with his friends, said his father Niranjana Chandra. Fire fighters recovered the body following an eight-hour search, said

⁷⁴ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/man-found-killed-dhaka-house-1232686>

⁷⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/newborns-body-found-sylhet-1232494>

Akhteruzzaman, deputy assistant director of Gazipur fire service. Earlier around 8:00pm on Wednesday, the family found the victim's shoes and a shirt on the bank of the waterbody belongs to a garment factory.⁷⁶

On June 05, 2016 Police recovered the body of a youth from an under construction building in the capital's Uttara Pachchim area. The identity of the deceased could not be known immediately. Ali Hossain Khan, officer-in-charge of Uttara Pachcim Police Station, told this correspondent that on information, they recovered the body, cladding a pant and shirt smeared with blood, from the third-floor of a seven-storied building at sector-10. His hands and legs were tied with ropes, he added.⁷⁷

On June 06, 2016 a college student was found dead in the Arial Khan River near Nandibazar area in Muladi upazila of the Barisal district. The deceased is Mithu Khan, 17, son of Monayem Khan of Laxmipur village, and an HSC student of local Charkalekha Adarsha College. He went missing two days ago, said family members. Informed by locals, police recovered the body from the river around 10:00am, said Babul Khan, a member of Charkalekha Union Parishad.⁷⁸

On June 16, 2016 Police recovered the body of an alleged criminal from an under-construction building in the capital's Pallabi. The dead, Sohel always Bhaigna Sohel, 26, of Narail, was a cohort of Bhaigna Munna in the area, said police. He went missing on Saturday. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for an autopsy.⁷⁹

On June 16, 2016 Magura police recovered the body of an unidentified man from Bhaban Hati Dhal area on Magura-Jessore road. Officer-in-Charge Ajmal Huda of Magura Sadar Police Station said, locals spotted the body of a man, aged about 32 years, beside the Magura-Jessore road around 8:30am and informed the police. Criminals might have killed the man somewhere else and dumped the body there, the OC added. Police recovered the body and sent it to Magura Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.⁸⁰

On June 18, 2016 Police recovered the body of a missing caretaker of a temple from Swami Bhashwar Ananda Mission under Dumuria upazila of Khulna district. The deceased was identified as Prodig Kumar Mallik, 47, a resident of Keshabpur upazila in Jessore district. He went missing on June 4. Shahidul Islam, officer-in-charge of Keshabpur Police Station, said Prodig was a singer. Masudur Rahman, OC (investigation) of the police station, said informed by locals, they went to the spot and recovered the body hanging from a tree near his residence on Friday afternoon.⁸¹

⁷⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/missing-gazipur-boy-found-dead-1233571>

⁷⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/youths-body-found-uttara-1234654>

⁷⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/student-found-dead-1235383>

⁷⁹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/body-criminal-found-capital-1240297>

⁸⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/body-recovered-1240963>

⁸¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/caretaker-found-dead-1241872>

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

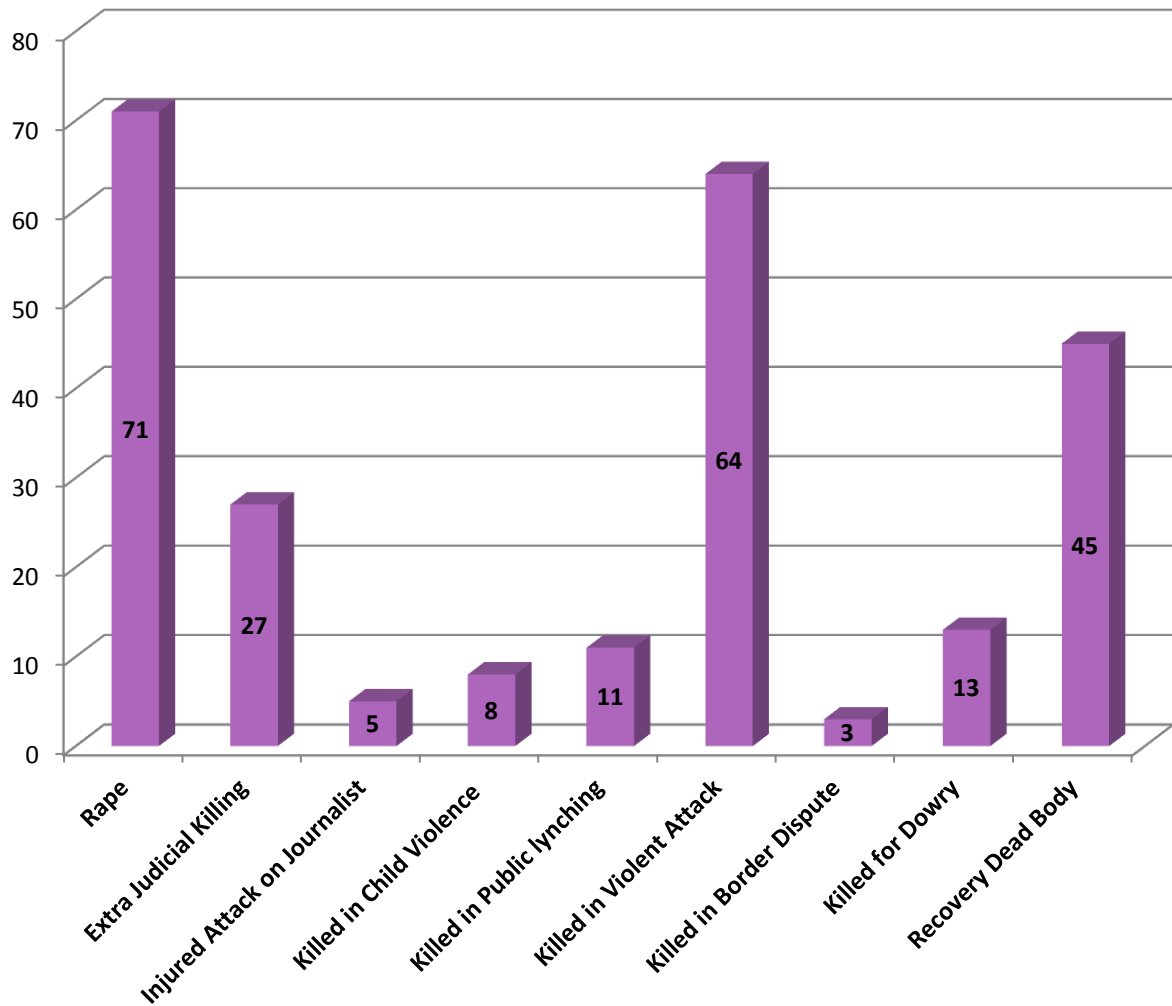


Figure 14: At a Glance in June 2016

CONCLUSION

To put it in a nutshell, it is observed that the human rights situation in Bangladesh was pathetic in June 2016. This is mostly because of the failure of the public administration to protect the life and property of the common people.

Frequently, security forces were getting involved in the abduction and killing as the reports suggest. The incident of torture, oppression, and arbitrary arrests by law enforcement agencies became more common in Bangladesh. It is claimed by some stakeholders that the Government authority through its administrative mechanism is randomly abusing its legitimized power and committing torture to the common people for articulating their self-desire as well as securing the vested interest of the ruling party which is unexpected. The problem is that the government is not taking any effective measures to improve the situation rather than blaming the oppositions, and thus escaping from their responsibilities.

Election violence including vote rigging and domestic violence including rape have become significant features of the deterioration of human rights conditions in June 2016. Political turmoil between rival political parties is gradually intensified. Many innocent citizens are facing different forms of suppression, discrimination and exploitation by different vested quarters without any justified allegations. Although UDHR and Constitution of Bangladesh (Article no. 27-44) strictly defend all forms of human rights, it's a matter of deep concern that they have been denied by most incumbents of the government.

It might be estimated that if human rights situation gradually deteriorates as it was happens during the first quarter of the year then the whole country would be undisciplined, anarchic, unstable as well as disordered. Upon such alarming circumstances, HRSC calls to every conscious citizen and non-state actors to be more vocal against these sorts of deplorable human rights situations in the country. HRSC also urges the government to be more responsive in protecting the life and property of the general people and thereby fulfill their constitutional commitment.

RECOMMENDATION

- ❑ The fair practice of democratic system is the prerequisite to ensure the human rights. Hence, the Government should initiate the cordial dialogue with all major political parties to resolve the deadlock regarding the election procedure and find out the proper way to ensure stable political situation and democratic system in the country.
- ❑ Violence against women (VAW) is both structural and cultural. So, actions should be taken to create a culture against VAW at all spheres and criminal must be faced before the law.
- ❑ The government needs to form a special independent agency or judiciary investigation team to inquiry every incident of extra-judicial killing, enforce disappearance and abduction. After an investigation, real culprits should be given exemplary punishment.
- ❑ The government should take necessary steps to find out the victims of disappearance and handed back them to their families. HRSC urges the government to abide by the agreements of the international convention for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance, adopted by the UN on December 20, 2006 in a proper manner.
- ❑ The Proper initiative has to be taken to ensure the security of women, children and minority group members. Equity must be ensured in every sphere of social, economic and political life.
- ❑ The Government should be flexible in the matter of freedom of expression. All types of print and electronic media should enjoy fearless opportunity to broadcast their news even though it goes against the Government. The Government has to be more tolerant of the oppositions and their ideas.
- ❑ Arbitrary arrests of persons with reverse political 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 must ensure the accountability and transparency of the members of law enforcement agencies and should take effective measures to end impunity.