

Monthly Human Rights Observation Report on Bangladesh

September, 2016



**HUMAN RIGHTS SUPPORT CENTER
(HRSC)**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September 2016, Human rights violation is being continued as similar as to the previous month In Bangladesh. In this month, the most significant human rights issues were violent attack, domestic violence, abduction, arbitrary arrest. But the worst situation was in the case of rape, gang rape, and child rape. Especially, Extra- Judicial killing and attack on minority has been considered as a serious problem in September 2016.

According to the source of human rights support center (HRSC), approximately 14 people were killed extra-judicially in September 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, Enforced disappearances were continued noticeably during the September 2016. Most of these allegations were against the security forces including RAB, DB, and Police. According to HRSC monitoring team, a total 04 people have been disappeared by Law enforcement agency (LEA) in September'16.

Moreover, HRSC report demonstrates that a total of 71 females were alleged to be raped in September 2016. Among of them, around 20 were below the age of 16 and 06 were killed after rape. About 11 women were subjected to be gang raped. A total of 17 women were killed for dowry and roughly 15 were sexually harassed as well as around 02 were victims of Acid violence. Approximately, 20 women were killed in the family feud and 07 have been injured in a total of 27 incidences.

On the other hand, at least 05 Bangladeshi citizens were killed by BSF and one was injured. Around people 39 were killed in the violent attack. An account of 33 people have been abducted, among of them 20 were rescued and 04 were killed after the abduction. In terms of journalist attack, almost 02 were seriously injured. Furthermore, around 12 people were killed in political violence. At least 07 people were killed in a public lynching. Remarkably “violence against children” in September 2016, around 11 children was killed and almost 14 children have been critically injured in a total of nearly 23 incidents.

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 in 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 non-state actor to raise their voice to protect and promote human rights in Bangladesh.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SL	Topics	Page Number
1	Executive Summary	01
2	Table of Contents	02
3	Extra-judicial Killing	03
4	Violence Against Women	06
5	Border killing	10
6	Violence against children	12
7	Violent Attack	14
8	Abduction	17
9	Political Violence	19
10	Recovery of Dead Body	21
11	Attack on journalist	23
12	Enforce disappearance	25
13	Public Lynching	26
14	At a Glance September 2016	27
15	Conclusion	28
16	Recommendation	29

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.¹Bangladesh 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 RAB² authorities have informed the media that the victim’s 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.³The government of Bangladesh has been 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 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.

■ Crossfire ■ Torture to Death ■ Shot to Death ■ Custodial Death

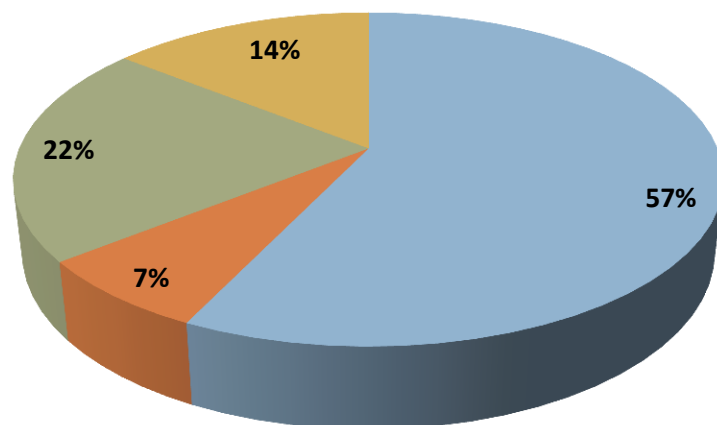


Figure 01: Scenario of Encounter killing in September 2016

The given pie chart provides information about the extra-judicial killing scenario in September 2016: According to human rights support center (HRSC) report, a total of 14 persons were alleged kill extra-judicially. Out of them, 08 people were killed in the name of ‘crossfire/ gunfights’, 03 were shot to death, one was tortured to death and 02 have died in the custody.

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

2 <http://www.lawteacher.net>

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

Some important cases are mentioned below: On September 02, 2016 an identified robber was killed in a “gunfight” between police and his cohorts in Pirojpur village under Kaliganj upazila of Jhenidah. Police said a gang opened fired on them a patrolling pick-up van of police reached the spot around 3:30am when the robbers were preparing to conduct a robbery by felling trees on Jessore-Jhenidah road. Seeing the law-enforcers the robbers opened fire, and police responded, leaving him wounded, said police. He was declared dead in hospital.⁴

On September 06, 2016 an alleged snatcher was killed and another sustained bullet wounds in police firing in the capital's Dhanmondi. Law enforcers also nabbed their accomplice Bashar when he was trying to flee the spot. Police said the dead is Sagar, 26, a listed snatcher. The injured is Hazrat Ali, 28. The trio in a private car attempted to snatch valuables from a rickshaw passenger near Matsya Bhaban intersection around 6:00am, said Maruf Hossain Sorder, deputy commissioner (Ramna division) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.⁵

On September 09, 2016 an extremism suspect was killed and eight were injured during a raid at a den of extremism suspect on Lalbagh Road at Azimpur in the capital, said police officials.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police acting commissioner Shahbuddin Qureshi said that the identity of the deceased and injured could not be established immediately. Police detained three females from a building at Lalbagh Road near Border Guard Bangladesh gate-2 during the raid, he said.⁶

On September 10, 2016, an alleged ringleader of a pirate gang was killed in a ‘gunfight’ with police in Tiyakhal area adjacent to the Sonamukhi river of Sunderbans in Koyra of Khulna. The deceased was identified as Rabiul Islam, 40, son of late Ruhul Amin, a resident of Mohoratpur. Sheikh Shamsur Ali, officer-in-charge of Koyra police station, said on secret information, a team of police arrested Rabiul from Rathghat area of the upazila on Saturday afternoon. After gleaning information from Rabiul, police conducted another drive in Tiyakhal area around 11:00pm along with him to recover firearms. When they reached the spot around 4:00am, associates of Rabiul attacked police and opened fire on them which left Rabiul dead on the spot.⁷

On September 12, 2016, an alleged robber was killed in a ‘gunfight’ between his cohorts and police in Aoul Bhanga Bridge area of Nabinagar upazila. The deceased was identified as Kajol, a resident of village Sirirampur. Nabinagar police officer-in-charge Imtiaz Ahmed said acting on a tip-off that a gang of robbers was taking preparation to commit robbery on Mohesh road in the area, a team of Shibpur police camp conducted a drive there at about 1:30am. Sensing presence of the law enforcers, the gang members opened fire at them and the police retaliated, that triggered a gunfight.⁸

⁴ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/966316/>

⁵ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=30537>

⁶ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/national/2016/09/10/24817>

⁷ <http://newagebd.net/251214/robber-ringleader-killed-in-khulna-gunfight/>

⁸ <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/print-edition/country/2016/09/12/143558.html>

On September 15, 2016, a man, accused in several murders cases, was killed in a “gunfight” between his cohorts and police in Bajitpur upazila. The deceased, Fadur Ali alias Ripon, 35, was the son of late Morshed Mia of Dari Ghaghatia village in the upazila. Police arrested Fadur from Narsingdi's Belabo upazila on Wednesday. Later, police along with Fadur raided Satirchar village to recover firearms around 3:00am. Sensing the presence of the law enforcers, Fadur's associates opened fire on the policemen prompting them to retaliate, triggering a “gunfight”.⁹

on September 17, 2016, An incumbent member of a union parishad, also the prime accused in the case of abduction and killing of schoolboy Mahfuz Alam Sajib, was killed in a ‘gunfight’ with the members of Rapid Action Battallion in a mango orchard in Gobindapur under Damurhuda in Chuadanga. The dead was identified as Rakibul Islam, 28, son of Iman Ali of village Alukdia under Chuadanga Sadar upazila in the district. He was a member of Alukdia union parishad and went into hiding after the abduction and killing Sajib.¹⁰

On September 19, 2016, suspected robber was killed and his five cohorts were arrested following a ‘gunfight’ between police and suspected robbers at Chandipur village of Pirganj in Rangpur district. The dead is identified as Humayun Kabir, 28, of Pirganj town. All the five detained robber suspects are aged between 20 and 30, said the Pirganj police station officer-in-charge, Md Rezaul Karim. Rezaul said a team of police, along with one of the detained suspected robbers, went to Chandipur village to nab other suspected robbers and recover illegal firearms these early hours. Later the miscreants sensing the presence of police personnel, opened fire on them while police also retaliated with gunshots, he said.¹¹

On September 25, 2016A suspected robber was killed in a ‘gunfight’ between police and suspected robbers at Bakerganj municipality area in Barisal. The dead was identified as Khokon, 35, son of Javed Ali of village Maheshpur under Bakerganj in Barisal. He was wanted in several cases of robbery lodged with different police stations in the district.¹²

⁹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/accused-killed-kishoreganj-gunfight-1284793>

¹⁰ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/09/18/25262>

¹¹ <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2016/09/20/84997.html>

¹² <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/09/26/25994>

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Violence against women and girls is one of the most systematic and widespread human rights violations. It is rooted in gendered social structures 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.¹³ 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”.¹⁴ 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 September 2016. HRSC provides the following data has been taken from 12 prominent daily newspapers in Bangladesh.

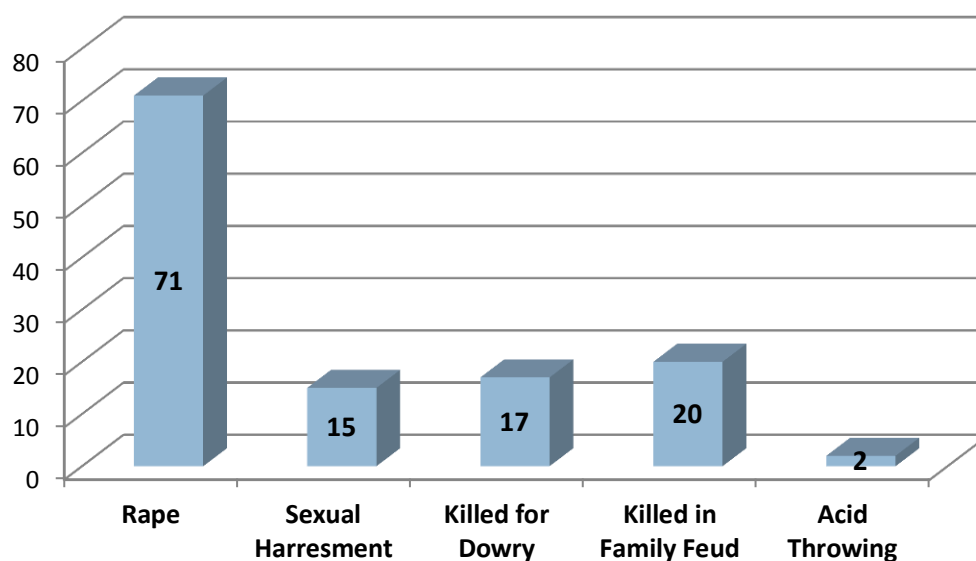


Figure 02: Violence against Women in September'16

HRSC identifies 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. According to the HRSC, the supplied graph illustrates about information of violence against women in September 2016 are detailed:

¹³ (UN General Assembly, 2006)

¹⁴ (General Assembly Resolution 48/104 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, 1993)

Rape

• A total number of 71 females were raped. Among of them 51 were victims of single rape and 11 were subjected to gang rape and 20 were children below the age of 16 (including single and gang rape). Approximately 06 were killed after being raped. On the other hand; around 08 incidents have been attempted to rape.

Killed in Family Feud

in September 2016 About 20 women were killed in the family feud and 07 females have been injured. Out of them, 27 were an incident of Family Feud.

Dowry Related Violence

• Approximately 19 incidents of dowry-related violence were reported in September 2016. About 17 were killed and 02 women were physically abused over dowry demands.

Sexual Haressment

• According to information collected by HRSC, a total of 15 girls and women were reportedly victims of sexual harassment in September 2016. Among them, 11 were assaulted and 04 were stalked.

Acide Violence

• almost two female became victims of acid violence and critically injured in September 2016. A majority of the acid attacks on women occurs due to the refusal of the proposal of love, marriage or sex advances or over land disputes or failure of affairs or not withdrawal case.

Some important cases are cited: On September 07, 2016 schoolgirl was stabbed allegedly by a stalker inside her home in Bochaganj upazila for rejecting his marriage proposal. The girl is Zakia Sultana, 14, a class-VIII student of Bochaganj Ideal Academy. She is a daughter of Border Guard Bangladesh member Zomshed Ali of Labour-Linepara in Bochaganj municipality area. Zomshed has recently been transferred to Satkhira from Thakurgaon.¹⁵

On September 08, 2016 two people allegedly raped a 16-year-old girl after picking her up from a rickshaw in the capital's Kodomtoli. The girl, from Ishwarganj of Mymensingh, was admitted to the One-stop Crisis Centre at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). Police, quoting the victim, said she was going to her stepsister's house in Magbazar from Mymensingh.¹⁶

On September 09, 2016 the headmaster of a high school was arrested for torturing his wife and demanding dowry money in Amjuwan village in Ranishankoil upazila of Thakurgaon, according to the case statement. The arrestee is Ekramul Haque, 45, headmaster of AB Phulbari High School. Police said Ekramul's wife Kulsum filed the case on Wednesday against him.¹⁷

On September 10, 2016, a ninth grader was allegedly raped several times by a house tutor promising to marry her at Chinirpara village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila. The tutor is identified as Suzon Miah, 25, son of Shahid Ali at Telipara village of the same upazila. The girl's mother said Suzon had been teaching her daughter at their home for the last four years. The house tutor developed an affair with her daughter two months ago promising to marry her, the mother told as the girl shared the matter with her (mother). The tutor also raped her daughter several times, the mother said.¹⁸

On September 15, 2016, a 25-year-old woman was gang-raped allegedly by her boyfriend and five of his accomplices in Rampal upazila. UP member Nazrul Islam Dablu said Mukto Sardar of Orabunia village had long been engaged in an affair with the woman of Perikhali village. Police said Mukto took the victim to Abdul Hamid's fish enclosure where he and five others confined her to a room and gang-raped her.¹⁹

On September 16, 2016, an undergraduate student was allegedly beaten to death after being gang-raped in her home at Haridrabari village of Amtali upazila in Barguna district. Helena Begum, 21, was sleeping with her mother when four miscreants entered the house and raped her, said victim's brother, Mizanur, adding that his mother is suffering from mental disorder. Hearing Helena screaming, locals rushed to the spot and found her in a pool of blood. She died on the way to Patuakhali General Hospital.²⁰

¹⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/stalker-stabs-schoolgirl-dinajpur-1282495>

¹⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/teenage-girl-raped-city-1282978>

¹⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/schoolteacher-held-torturing-wife-demanding-dowry-money-1283488>

¹⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/tutor-rapes-girl-1283974>

¹⁹ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/976999>

²⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/barguna-girl-killed-after-gang-rape-1285312>

On September 16, 2016, a housewife was found dead at Chandgaon of Nalitabari in Sherpur. The police said that Monika Begum, 22, wife of Rakibul Hasan Rakib of village Ranigaon, went to her grandfather's house at Chandgaon on Wednesday along with her husband and she was found dead inside a room in the next morning.²¹

On September 17, 2016, a housewife was killed allegedly by her husband over dowry money at Dagarmora in Savar municipality area. The deceased was identified as Hafiza Akhter Rani, 19, wife of Rejaul Karim Emon, a resident of Dagarmora. The couple used to live in a rented house of one Abdul Halim in the area.²²

On September 18, 2016, a schoolgirl was stabbed to death allegedly by her tutor in Nabogram village of Madaripur's Kalkini. Locals said the incident may have happened over a failed love-affair. The victim, Nitu Mondal, 14, was a ninth-grader of Nabogram High School.²³

On September 27, 2016, a man allegedly hurled acid at his former wife and mother-in-law in their Chittagong city residence in Pologroun area. Sheli Akter, ex-wife of Md Jahangir, with 15 percent burns; and Hosne Ara, her mother, with 10 percent, are being treated at the burn unit of Chittagong Medical College Hospital, said CMCH sources.²⁴

On September 27, 2016, unidentified assailants stabbed a 22-year-old college student, also a housewife, to death at her bedroom at Purba Dashara area of Manikganj town. The victim was identified as Supriya Sarkar, wife of Dipanjan Sarkar of Purba Dashara area. Manikganj sadar police station officer-in-charge Aminur Rahman, who was on the spot, referring to the victim's in-laws, told that the assailants stabbed her to death anytime between 12:00am and 7:00am.²⁵

On September 28, 2016, a newlywed college girl has murdered allegedly after rape at her husband's rented house in Manikganj municipality. The deceased was Supria Saha Priya, 20, daughter of Sukumar Saha of Purbo Dashora in the municipality, and a second-year honors student of Government Devendra College. Priya lived at the house of in-laws while her husband Dipanjan Sarkar, 25, son of Dilip Sarkar, is studying at Northern University in Dhaka.²⁶

On September 28, 2016, an unidentified miscreant hurled acid at a woman in Mirpur zoo of Dhaka. With burns to the left eye, face, throat, and arms, the woman was taken to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital's burn unit, said Dr. Shakhawat. Her husband Sujon Mia told reporters at the hospital that he along with her was visiting the zoo when a stranger thought to be a hijra wearing a sari threw acid and fled while he was in a nearby washroom. On arrival, he chased the attacker in vain, he said.²⁷

²¹ <http://newagebd.net/251819/housewife-found-dead-sherpur/>

²² <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/man-kills-wife-savar-1285690>

²³ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/tutor-stabs-schoolgirl-death-1286110>

²⁴ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/acid-attack-woman-ex-husband-ctg-house-1290802>

²⁵ <http://newagebd.net/253923/manikganj-housewife-stabbed-death-bedroom/>

²⁶ <http://bangla.samakal.net/2016/09/28/239677>

²⁷ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/990163>

BORDER KILLING

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.

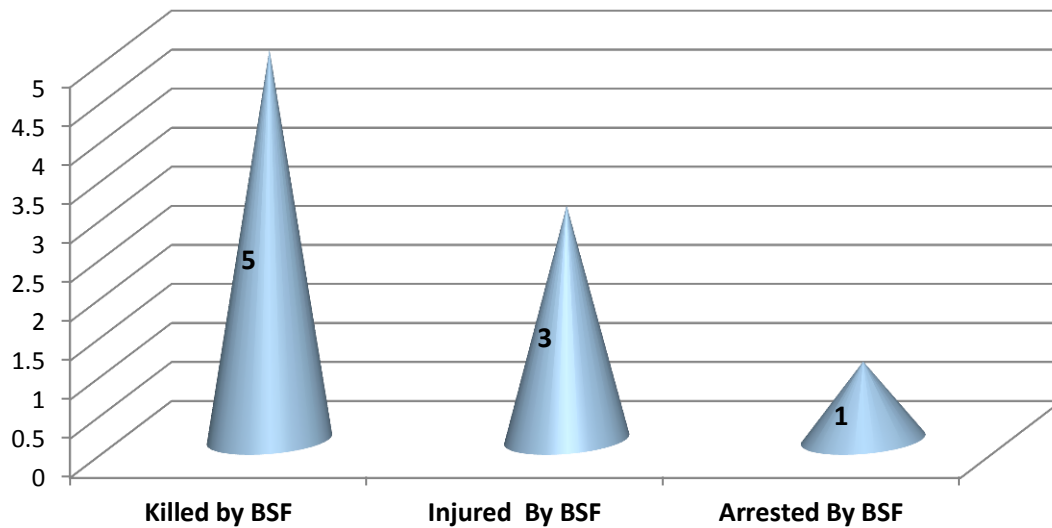


Figure 03: Statistics of Territorial Dispute

The given pie chart gives data on the border dispute. According to HRSC in September 2016, roughly 05 Bangladeshis citizen were killed, almost 04 injured and one arrested by BSF.

Some important cases are mentioned below; On September 06, 2016 Indian Border Security Force (BSF) picked up a Bangladeshi from near the zero line at International Border Pillar in Chargaon area under Chargaon border in Tahirpur upazila of Sunamganj. The detainee is Nayan Mia, 40, son of Meher Ali of Chargaon village. Nayan might have mistakenly entered the zero line for collecting stones, said officials of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB).²⁸

On September 18, 2016, A Bangladesh citizen was shot at by Indian Border Security Force on Telkupi border at Shibganj upazila in Chapainawabganj. The victim was identified as Abir Ali, 25, son of Abdul Latif, a resident of village Lambapara in the upazila. Lieutenant Colonel Abul Ahsan, the commanding officer of Border Guard Bangladesh Battalion-9, said BSF

²⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/bsf-picks-bangladeshi-1281811>

personnel from Gopalnagar camp opened fire on a group of Bangladeshi men while they were returning to their village around 8:00pm, leaving Abir bullet-injured.²⁹

On September 19, 2016, A Bangladeshi cattle trader was shot dead by Indian Border Security Force near the main pillar no. nine at Bangerbari border of Dahagram in Lalmonirhat. The deceased is identified as Hazrat Ali, 35, son of Amir Ali at Bangerbari village in Patgram. After the killing, BSF personnel took away the body, said commanding officer of Lalmonirhat 15 Border Guard Bangladesh battalion lieutenant colonel Bajlur Rahman Hayati.³⁰

On September 22, 2016, Two Bangladesh nationals were shot dead by the members of Indian Border Security Force in Kurigram and Jhenaidah. In Jhenaidah, Jashim Mandal, 32, was shot dead by BSF troops along Baghdadanga bordering area in Moheshpur upazila. Idris Ali, nayek subedar of Border Guard Bangladesh Moheshpur camp, said when Jashim along with some other people went to Hazrar Khal area for bringing cattle heads around 4:00am, the BSF members of Ramnagar camp opened fire on them, leaving Jashim dead on the spot. In Kurigram, another Bangladeshi youth was shot dead by BSF troops along Goytarpar frontier in Roumari upazila. The deceased was identified as Dukhu Mia, 28, son of Abdul Hye of village Fakirpara in the upazila.³¹

On September 25, 2016, Indian Border Security Force (BSF) shot dead Bangladeshi national in Chhat Karaibari border area under Roumari upazila of Kurigram. The deceased was Baharul Islam, 28, son of Baktar Hossain of Chhat Karaibari border village of Datbhanga union under Roumari upazila. The body will be sent to Kurigram Sadar Hospital for an autopsy, said Rafiqul Islam, sub-inspector of Roumari Police Station.³²

²⁹ <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2016/09/19/84898.html>

³⁰ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/09/20/25453/>

³¹ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=32678&cat=1/>

³² <http://bangla.samakal.net/2016/09/25/239055>

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.³³ The rights of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral, and social development".³⁴

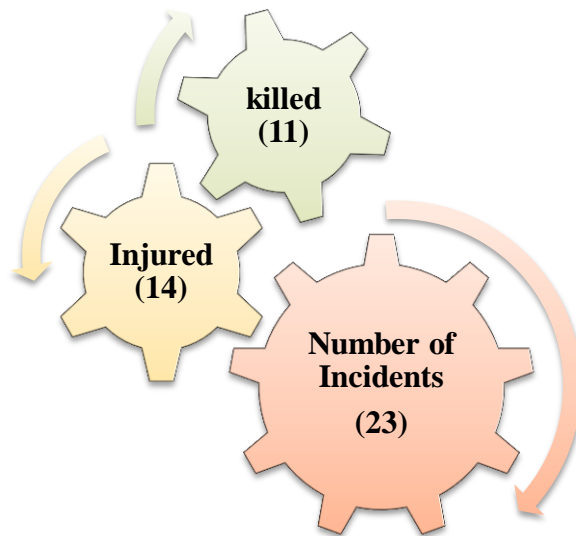


Figure 04: Violence against children in September '16

According to HRSC report, the graph presented below regarding the violence against children in September 2016, around 11 children's were killed and almost 14 children's have been critically injured in a total of nearly 23 incidents of Violence against Children.

Some important cases are mentioned below; On September 03, 2016 a baby girl was hacked to death by an addicted youth in Chhoto Tengra area under Sadar upazila of the Bogra. Police said the youth entered the girl's house and started hacking her with a spade. Hearing the screams of the mother of the girl, locals rushed to the spot and caught the youth.³⁵

On September 15, 2016, a nine-year-old house help was brutally tortured allegedly by her employers in Gazipur. The child bearing deep injury marks on all over her body and head was having treatment at the Haimchar Health Complex in Chandpur. Locals said the child

³³ Abdul Halim, Constitution, Constitutional Law & Politics Bangladesh Perspective, 3rd ed p. 53.

³⁴ Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989, Art. 27.

³⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/addict-kills-baby-girl-bogra-1280320>

started working in Faruk's house a year ago. She wanted to go home but her employers were unwilling let her go. They beat her up several times, they claimed.³⁶

On September 16, 2016, the woman who allegedly tortured her nine-year-old house help in Gazipur was arrested at Badda in the capital. Police had arrested her husband Omar Faruk, a supervisor of cargoes at the Dhaka airport, in Gazipur's Joydebpur on Thursday after a case was filed with Haimchar Police Station under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act. Mostafa Sardar, who had taken the child to the couple, was also arrested. The family of the girl was already in trouble after her father abandoned them, according to Haimchar police in Chandpur.³⁷

On September 20, 2016, A minor boy was beaten to death by unidentified assailants at Shyampur Alibahar under Kadamtali police station in Dhaka. The victim was identified as Abdullah, 7, son of Golam Mostofa of Mehendiganj upazila in Barisal and now a resident at Natun Alibahar of Shyampur union under Kadamtali. Kadamtali police sub-inspector Zakir Hossain said that the boy was beaten to death, according to the primary investigation. Sub-inspector Bachchu Miah of Dhaka Medical College Hospital police camp said that the boy was brought to the hospital at about 3:30pm with his face stained with blood and doctors declared him brought dead.³⁸

³⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/9-yr-old-brutally-tortured-1285024>

³⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/treatment-take-least-3-weeks-1285297>

³⁸ <http://newagebd.net/252777/minor-boy-beaten-death/>

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 September 2016.

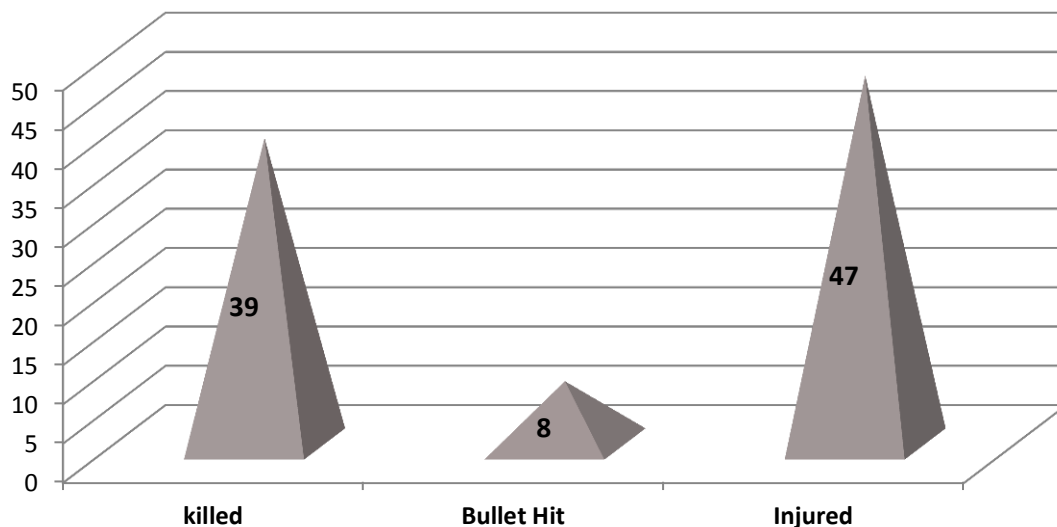


Figure 05: statistics of Violent Attacks in September '16

The bar chart provides information regarding the violent attack on armless civilian. According to the data in Human Rights Support Centre (HRSC) in September 2016, a total 62 incidents of violent attack have happened and 39 were killed in these attacks, 47 were seriously injured and around 08 persons have been bullet hit.

Selected cases are as analyzed: On September 04, 2016 Two Jubo League activists were hacked allegedly by the men of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) in the town. The injured are Patuakhali Jubo League activists Rubel Hawlader, 28, and Md Milon, 26. Rubel was shifted to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital as his condition deteriorated. Police said BCL men Mizan and Murad often went to Rubel's grocery shop and demanded money for buying drugs.³⁹

On September 05, 2016 Miscreants shot dead a security guard of bKash sales representatives and looted Tk 16 lakh in Gazipura in Gazipur City. The deceased was Sheikh Abdul Hamid, 50, of Bagerhat district's Rampal Borokatla. Emdadul Islam and his assistant Subrato Bishas, sales representatives of bkash, a money transfer service provider, were collecting money from

³⁹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/2-jubo-league-activists-hacked-bcl-men-1280827>

Ma Media Center when a gang of five entered the shop and tried to snatch the bag containing Tk 16 lakh. The gang shot Hamid as he opened fire on them, said police quoting witnesses.⁴⁰

On September 07, 2016 A Jubo League leader was shot dead by unknown criminals at Baligaon in Feni Sadar upazila. Deceased Joynal Abedeen, 45, was a former vice-president of Jubo League of Bligaon Union and also a former member of the union parishad (UP). Police and locals said Joynal was going to his house at around 9:30pm on Tuesday by a motorbike on the Feni-Kutirhat road when he was shot on the way by unknown people, who immediately fled the scene.⁴¹

On September 07, 2016 unidentified assailants hacked a woman to death and took away valuables from her apartment after they entered the building pretending to rent one at the capital's Dakkhin Khan. The victim was Wahida Akter, 45, whose expatriate husband Sohrab Hossain lives in Qatar, said police. She was rushed to a local hospital and later shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment, where the doctors declared her dead around 10:30pm, said the hospital sources.⁴²

On September 09, 2016 a young man was hacked to death by unidentified miscreants at Mandail of Keraniganj in Dhaka. The deceased was identified as Rubel, 24, son of Rabiullah, a resident of village Najarganj in the upazila, reports United News of Bangladesh. Sub-inspector Oliar Rahman of Keraniganj police station said a group of miscreants hacked Rubel over the previous enmity around 8:30am, leaving him dead on the spot.⁴³

On September 10, 2016, award-level Jubo League leader was shot dead by some unknown assailants in Kanchana union of Satkania upazila. The victim, Jahirul Hasan, 47, was killed near his house around 8:45pm, said Farid Uddin Khondkar, officer-in-charge of Satkania Police Station. Police were yet to ascertain the cause behind the murder, he said. Mofizur Rahman, the general secretary of south Chittagong district Awami League, however, said political opponents might have committed the murder.⁴⁴

On September 10, 2016, a youth was hacked to death by miscreants at Mandail in Keraniganj upazila. The deceased was Rubel, 24, of Najarganj village in the upazila. Sub-inspector Oliar Rahman of Keraniganj Model Police Station said some miscreants hacked Rubel over the previous enmity leaving him dead on the spot. The body was sent to a hospital for autopsy.⁴⁵

On September 11, 2016, unidentified criminals shot a local Awami League leader dead at Kanchana of Satkania upazila. Jahirul Islam, 48, was a leader of Kanchana union parishad Awami League. Officer-in-Charge Sharif Uddin Khandakar of Satkania Police Station said the criminals fired at Jahirul in Bashirkhil area of Kanchana around 10:15pm. Being

⁴⁰ <http://www.dailynayadiganta.com/detail/news/151064#sthash.FC71sSAg.dpuf>

⁴¹ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/09/07/24484>

⁴² <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/woman-hacked-death-capital-1282603>

⁴³ <http://newagebd.net/251039/youth-hacked-dead-keraniganj/>

⁴⁴ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/jubo-league-leader-killed-1284013>

⁴⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/youth-hacked-dead-keraniganj-1283881>

informed, police went to the spot and took the injured to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where doctor declared him dead.⁴⁶

On September 15, 2016, a college boy was found murdered at a paddy field in Pirganj upazila of Rangpur. A second year Higher Secondary Certificate student of Shathibari Degree College, Shibli Aziz, 19, son of Ashraf Ali Mondal of Ghoshpara, went to join in a picnic with his friends on Wednesday afternoon and did not return home. Later, Shibli's neighbours found the body. Pirganj Police, who sent the body to Rangpur Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy, said Shibli was strangled.⁴⁷

On September 16, 2016, A Juba League activist died at a city hospital, hours after he and one of his fellows were injured as a group of unidentified assailants opened fire on them at a club in Motijheel AGB Colony area of the capital. The deceased was identified as Rizvi Hasan Babu, 35, while the injured, who is now undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, is Ahsanul Haque Emon, 30. Motijheel police said the assailants opened fire on the duo around 11:30pm and the locals immediately rescued them and rushed to DMCH.⁴⁸

On September 18, 2016, a local leader of transport workers died at Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital in Barisal, hours after he was hacked by assailants in Barguna. Following his death, the transport workers halted movement of vehicles in the district since morning. The victim was identified as Haider Ali, aged between 45 and 50, a resident of Amlakitala in sadar upazila. He was the executive member of Barguna district transport workers' union. Sadar police officer-in-charge Riaz Hossain said the victim came under attack at Amlakitala around 8:00pm on Sunday while he was returning home. Assailants hacked him indiscriminately leaving him injured critically.⁴⁹

On September 20, 2016, Criminals stabbed a former local leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) in Nasirnagar upazila town of Brahmanbaria. The injured is former upazila BCL president Asaduzaman Chowdhury, 42, son of Shamsu Miah of Phulpur village. Police said Asaduzaman came under attack when he was returning home by a motorbike. There was a long-standing conflict between Asaduzaman and local youths Nurul Islam, Jahir Mia and Bidhan Mallik over supremacy in the area, said Md Abdul Kader, officer-in-charge of Nasirnagar Police Station.⁵⁰

⁴⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/al-leader-shot-dead-1284292>

⁴⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/college-boy-found-killed-rangpur-1284868>

⁴⁸ <http://www.dailynayadiganta.com/detail/news/153602#sthash.WMlghanK.dpuf>

⁴⁹ <http://newagebd.net/252249/transport-worker-leader-hacked-dead-barguna/>

⁵⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/former-bcl-man-stabbed-1287142>

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 September 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 offense 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 September 2016.

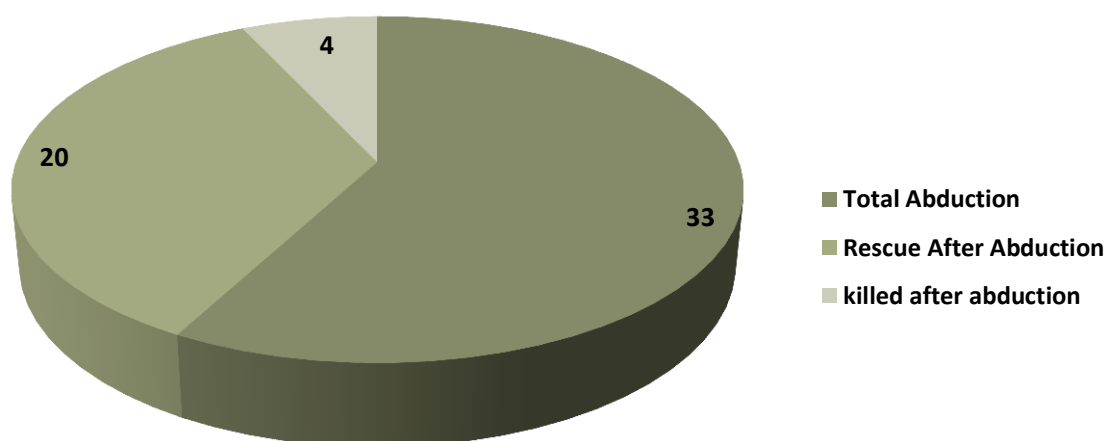


Figure 06: Statistics of Abduction September’16

The supplied pie chart describes information about the abduction cases in September 2016 in Bangladesh, According to the human rights support center (HRSC) information, a total of 33 people were abducted, among of them, 04 were killed after the abduction. On the other hand, nearly 20 people were rescued by law enforcement agencies after the abduction.

Selected cases are as follows: On September 19, 2016, the throat-slit body of a missing youth was found in a septic tank at Nayerhat village in Gobindaganj upazila. After recovery of the body, relatives of victim Ibrahim Khalil, 20, set fire to the house of rival Wajed Ali of the village, suspecting his involvement in the murder. Police picked up Hawa Begum, 45, wife of Wajed Ali, for interrogation, said Subrata Sarker, officer-in-charge of Gobindaganj Police Station. Ibrahim, son of Wasimuddin of Saktipur village in the upazila, went missing on Wednesday, said the OC.⁵¹

⁵¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/missing-youth-found-murdered-1286764>

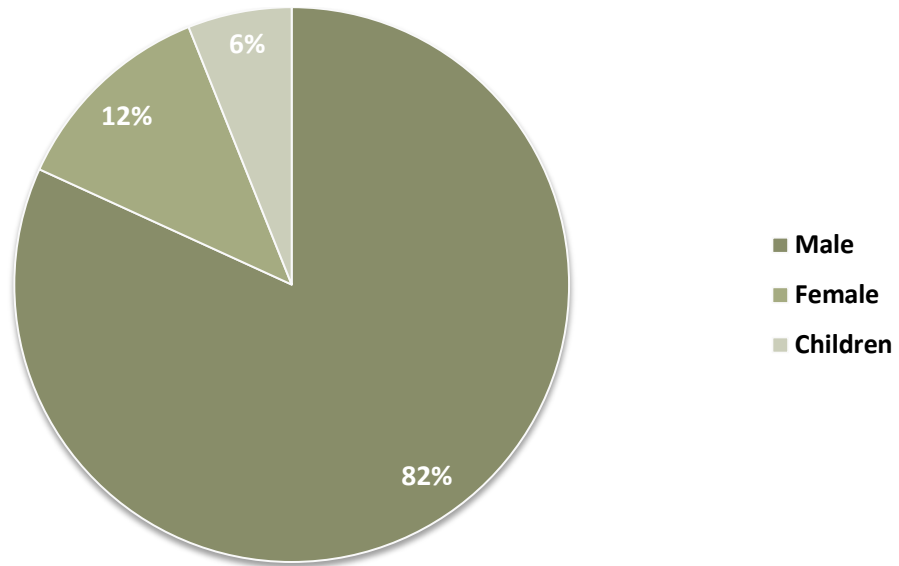


Figure 07: Categorization of Abduction September'16

The given pie chart describes information about the abduction cases in September 2016 in Bangladesh. According to the human rights support center (HRSC) information, a total of 33 people were abducted, among of them, 27 were male, around 04 were female and nearly 02 were children.

Selected cases are as follows: On September 25, 2016, Police rescued a five-year-old boy, who was abducted on Wednesday from Ashkarabad area of Chittagong city, and arrested a youth in this connection. One Ismail, 18, of Chakaria abducted Mainul Islam Mottakin, son of Kazi Yusuf Chowdhury from in front of his residence, said police. Later, Ismail who runs a shop beside Yusuf's residence demanded Tk 10 lakh as ransom and gave four bKash numbers to send the money. Police arrested the owner of the numbers Safar Alam, 27, and rescued Mottakin from the residence of Ismail's sister in Chakaria. Ismail and his sister are absconding. A case was filed.⁵²

On September 11, 2016, Jhenidah Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) rescued an abducted officer of a non-governmental organization (NGO) from Courtpara of the town. The abductee is Anisur Rahman, 36, son of Nur Mohammad of Shibanandapur under Moheshpur upazila of Jhenidah. He is the branch manager of ASHA, an NGO in Shailakupa upazila. Company Commander of Jhenidah Rab Major Monir Ahmed said in a press conference on Saturday that a girl named Marya Merry Mohana had an affair with Anisur. She told Anisur to meet her at Chuadanga bus stand of the town. As soon as Anisur reached the bus stand she, along with three accomplices on two motorbikes, abducted him.⁵³

⁵² <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/abducted-ctg-boy-rescued-1289566>

⁵³ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/abducted-ngo-officer-rescued-1284406>

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.⁵⁴ 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.

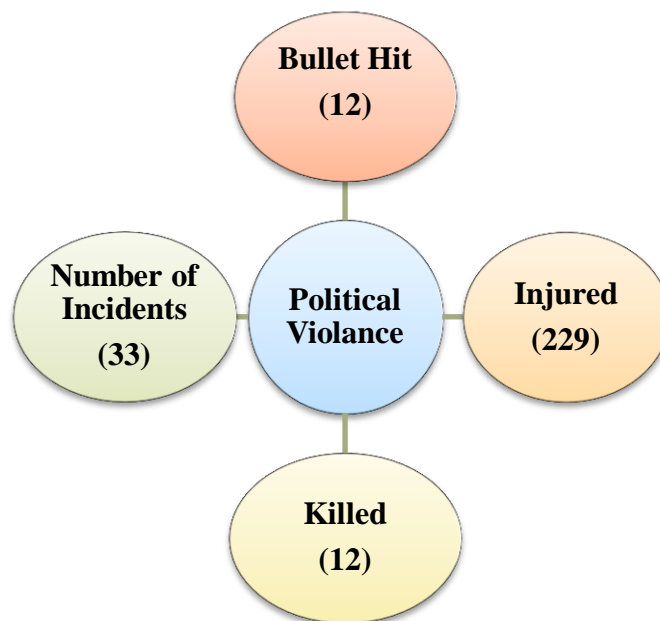


Figure 08: statistics of Political Violence in September'16

The figure presents information about the political violence in September 2016. According to Human Rights Support Centre (HRSC) information, a total of 12 people were killed, around 12 were bullet hit, and almost 229 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 September 05, 2016 Activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League beat up a student while he was allegedly taking drugs in his room of a dormitory on the Rajshahi University campus. The BCL men, later, handed the student over to the university administration, said Tanmayananda Ovi, RU BCL vice president, and Prof Md Abdur Rahman, provost of the dormitory Habibur Rahman Hall. Some residents of the

⁵⁴ Islam and Suykens, Distribution of Political Violence in Bangladesh 2016,

dormitory, who claimed to have witnessed the incident, said the drug addict student was also playing cards with his friends at that time.⁵⁵

On September 16, 2016, A Jubo League leader in the capital allegedly shot and injured a rickshaw puller who just wanted him to pay for the trip he made on the rickshaw. Police arrested the Jubo League man, Yusuf Sardar Sohel alias Sundori Sohel, from a hotel in Banani area around 2:00pm and recovered a gun and 22 bullets. Sohel, the joint convener of Banani Thana Jubo League, was drunk at the time of the incident, according to police.⁵⁶

On September 18, 2016, At least 20 people were injured when two rival factions of the ruling Awami League clashed over establishing supremacy in Kumarkhali upazila of the Kushtia. During the hour-long clash about 10 houses at Banshgram village was also vandalized. Of the injured, Kapil Uddin, 45, Tayeb Ali, 55, Helal Uddin, 30, and Imran Hossain, 22, were admitted to Kushtia Medical College Hospital, while the rest at different private clinics.⁵⁷

on September 24, 2016, Two people were killed and 20 others injured in a clash between two groups of Awami League over establishing supremacy at village Machhpara in Kushtia sadar. The deceased were identified as Iman Ali and Shahabuddin. Jhaudia police camp in-charge Dilip Kumar said two groups of Awami League one led by incumbent union chairman Keramat Ali and another by former chairman Bakhtiar had long been at loggerheads over establishing dominance in the area.⁵⁸

On September 27, 2016, a youth died and at least four others injured in a clash between followers of a union parishad chairman and a member at village Banglabazar of Hatiya in Noakhali. The deceased was identified as Md Kamal Hossain, 33, of the village. Sub-Inspector Anisul Huq, quoting the locals, said the followers of Char Ishwar UP chairman Abdul Halim Azad and member Rabindra Das locked in an altercation Tuesday morning over establishing supremacy.⁵⁹

On September 28, 2016, At least 25 people were injured in a clash between the activists of ruling Awami League (AL) and its ally Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) in Mirpur upazila of the district. Police and locals said supporters of local AL activist Shahidul Islam Jhantu and JSD activist Millat Hossain Raja engaged in an altercation over their alliance at Miton village around 7:30pm. At one stage, the men of both parties equipped with firearms clashed, leaving at least 20 people from both sides injured. AL men also ransacked the house of JSD activist Raja during the incident.⁶⁰

⁵⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/bcl-men-beat-drug-addict-1281310>

⁵⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/rickshaw-puller-shot-injured-league-man-1285405>

⁵⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/20-injured-kushtia-al-men-clash-1286269>

⁵⁸ <http://newagebd.net/253165/al-infighting-kills-two-in-kushtia/>

⁵⁹ <http://www.jugantor.com/news/2016/09/28/63867/>

⁶⁰ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=33491&cat=9>

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.

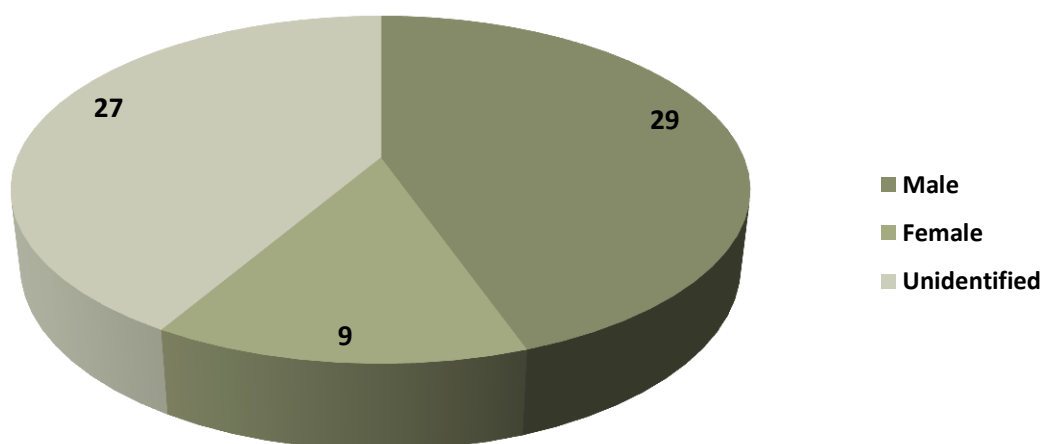


Figure 09: Recovery of Dead Body in September'16

The presented chart illustrates information about the recovery dead body. According to information collected by HRSC September 2016, a total of 65 dead bodies were found in the different area of the country, among of them 29 bodies were male and 09 bodies were female and 27 bodies were unidentified.

Selected cases are as follows: On September 02, 2016 Police recovered the body of a woman with her throat slit from Moheshpur village in Ishwarganj upazila of Mymensingh. The deceased was Bedena Akhtar, 35, of the village. Police said locals saw the body of Bedena, mother of two, at a house used for keeping swallow machine owned by one Fazlu Miah and informed police. Police sent the body to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital for an autopsy.⁶¹

On September 2, 2016, a shop employee was found dead in a shop in Dhaka University market at Kataban in the city. The deceased is identified as Imran Reza, 22, son of Atahar Uddin of Patuakhali and an employee of 'Maria International Crest Shop' in the market. Harichand Hajra, sub-inspector of Shahbagh police station, said other employees of the shop found Imran's body hanging inside the shop when they opened it in the morning and informed the police.⁶²

On September 8, 2016, An associate professor of Rajshahi University, Akhtar Jahan, was found dead afternoon inside her flat at university quarters. Police recovered the unconscious

⁶¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/womans-found-dead-throat-slit-1279915>

⁶² <http://newagebd.net/249913/shop-employee-found-dead-city/>

body of the 45-year old teacher of mass communication and journalism department around 5:00pm after breaking her flat's door, said officer-in-charge of Motihar police station Humaun Kabir. When police entered the flat the teacher was found lying on her bed and with her bed encircled by a mosquito net, he said.⁶³

On September 08, 2016 Police recovered the bodies of minor boys at Sabujbagh in the city, said an official. One of the victims was identified as Ifti, 6, of Dakkhingaon-Manikdia under Sabujbagh police station. The officer-in-charge of the police station, Abdul Kuddus, said police and fire service personnel recovered the body of Ifti from a septic tank nearby his house around 11:00am. Ifti remained missing since Thursday afternoon, he said.⁶⁴

On September 16, 2016, Police recovered the body of an unidentified youth, aged around 28, from a jungle in Godarbari area of Kishoreganj Sadar. Locals first spotted the body and informed police. Shaifiquil Islam, a sub-inspector of Kishoreganj Sadar Model Police Station, said the body bore several stab marks. The body was sent to Kishoreganj general hospital morgue for an autopsy, the SI added.⁶⁵

On September 19, 2016, Police of Uttara Paschim recovered the body of the wife of a ward councilor of Gazipur City Corporation from their residence at Uttara. The victim was identified as Nusrat Jahan Tumpa, 27, wife of GCC ward (number 2) councilor Solaiman Mia of Bhabanipur under Joydebpur police in Gazipur, according to Uttara Paschim police inspector (investigation) Abdur Razzak. The victim used to live in a house of road no 4 of section seven in the neighborhood with her husband. Sub-inspector Shahed Parvez who brought the body to Dhaka Medical College Hospital Monday night for a post mortem examination said that the body had reddish marks on the both elbows, ears, chin and throat.⁶⁶

On September 25, 2016, the decomposed body of a youth packed in a sack was recovered in Sylhet five days after he went missing. The deceased was identified as Imran Hossain, 25, son of Abu Bakkar of village Sonapur under Kanaighat upazila in the district and owner of a tailoring shop in the area, police said.⁶⁷

On September 29, 2016, Police recovered the decomposed body of an unidentified man, aged around 40, from the Karnaphuli River in Chittagong port area. Some workers near jetty no-7 first spotted the floating body and informed police. Sub-Inspector of Bandar Police Station Mohsin Hossain said the man might have been tortured before being killed. His right leg was broken and the whole body bore several injury marks.⁶⁸

⁶³ <http://newagebd.net/250870/rajshahi-univ-teacher-found-dead/>

⁶⁴ <http://newagebd.net/250852/bodies-two-minor-boys-recovered-city/>

⁶⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/youths-body-found-kishoreganj-1285246>

⁶⁶ <http://newagebd.net/252358/gazipur-ward-councillors-wife-found-dead-city/>

⁶⁷ <http://newagebd.net/253471/youth-found-dead-sylhet-7/>

⁶⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/mans-body-found-karnaphuli-1291837>

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.”⁶⁹The 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.⁷⁰ 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. Moreover, in Bangladesh, attacks on journalists are very frequent incidents; assaulting, threatening and disrupting in their professional duties have become very mundane matter. Freedom of expression was seen to limited in every aspect in Bangladesh September 2016. The government applied indirect pressure to coerce to different news agencies constantly.

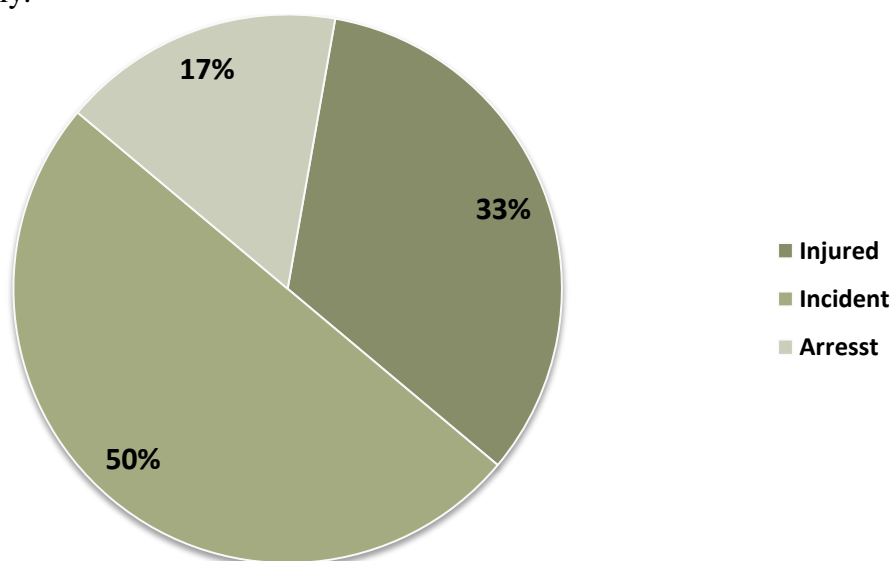


Figure 10: Attack on Journalist

⁶⁹ UDHR-1948, article 19

⁷⁰ICCPR-1966, article 19

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. The flow chart illustrates information about the attack on journalism in September. According to HRSC's documented statistics, around 02 were injured, and one was arrested.

Selected cases are as described here: On September 1, 2016, The Detective Branch of police arrested the award-winning reporter Siddiqur Rahman Khan for writing and publishing an article on his news portal Dainik Sikkha. The police arrested Siddiqur at Shiksha Bhaban in the afternoon, said Dhaka Metropolitan Police spokesperson Masudur Rahman. Siddiqur, editor of education based news portal 'Dainik Sikkha', was arrested under section 57 of Information and Communications Technology Act, he said.⁷¹

On September 18, 2016, the journalist was beaten up mercilessly by criminals in the town. Police arrested one Omar Faruq, 35, of Mashkanda area, in this connection. Md Nazrul Islam, staff reporter of Amader Samoy in the district, and secretary of Mymensingh Divisional Press Club was admitted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital with back and head injuries. SI Shaker Ahmed of Kotwali Police Station said when Nazrul was returning to the town, a gang of 10/12 waylaid his rickshaw and started beating the rickshaw puller over crossing the road in Digarkanda area. When Nazrul protested the beating, they beat him mercilessly.⁷²

On September 23, 2016, two journalists in Netrakona were injured during a commotion of the ruling Awami League activists demanding cancellation of a fresh committee of the local unit of Mobile AL. The injured are Pallab Chakaraborty of Prothom Alo and Shamlendu Paul of The Daily Ittefaq. Pallab was admitted to a local hospital. The clash erupted at district administration's Public Hall around 10:00am when Asma Zerine Jhumi, the unit's central organisational secretary, announced a committee making Kamrunessa Asraf and Habiba Rahman president and general secretary respectively, which local Jubo League and BCL activists rejected saying it was formed without holding any council and soon started protesting by throwing chairs. When journalists went to take photos they chased them and attacked Pallab and Shamlendu near the press club, said witnesses.⁷³

⁷¹ <http://newagebd.net/249636/journalist-siddiqur-arrested-sec-54-ict-act/>

⁷² <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=32008&cat=9>

⁷³ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/987517>

ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE

‘Enforced disappearance’ is a dreadful violation of human rights and an international crime. But in Bangladesh ‘Disappearance’ is, now-a-days, not a word only; rather a synonym of ‘public outcry’. The events of disappearance have already triggered a gravest hurdle in our national life by creating a dark horizon in the sky of political as well as a political administration. Abduction, killing after the abduction, rescuing dead body becomes the common & daily phenomenon in Bangladesh. The government of Bangladesh has ratified the Convention against Torture but has yet to accede to the International convention for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance.

According to the information gathered in ‘Human Rights Support Center’ (HRSC), September 2016, a total 04 people have disappeared by law enforcement agency (LEA); Several incidents of enforced disappearance have been reported during the violent political situation September 2016.

Selected cases are as follows:

On September 01, 2016 A Chittagong University student was picked up by plainclothes people from his Bakalia residence in the port city, the family claimed. There was no case against Md Nezam Uddin, an LLB final year student, before, his brother Abbas Uddin told a press conference at Chittagong Press Club. Abbas said he and Nezam have been living in Baramiya Masjid area for several years. On that day, the plainclothes men handcuffed his brother and picked him up through a microbus, said Abbas. “I went to Bakalia Police Station to file a GD, but to no avail. When we rushed to DB office, they did not pay heed to me,” he added. Nezam can be produced before a court if he is found guilty, said his father Ahmed Kabir. Bakalia police Officer-in-Charge Abul Mansoor said the family did not want to file a general diary but to know whether Nezam was arrested. “But we had no information about it.”⁷⁴

⁷⁴ <http://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2016/08/31/cu-student-allegedly-picked-plainclothes-men/>

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.

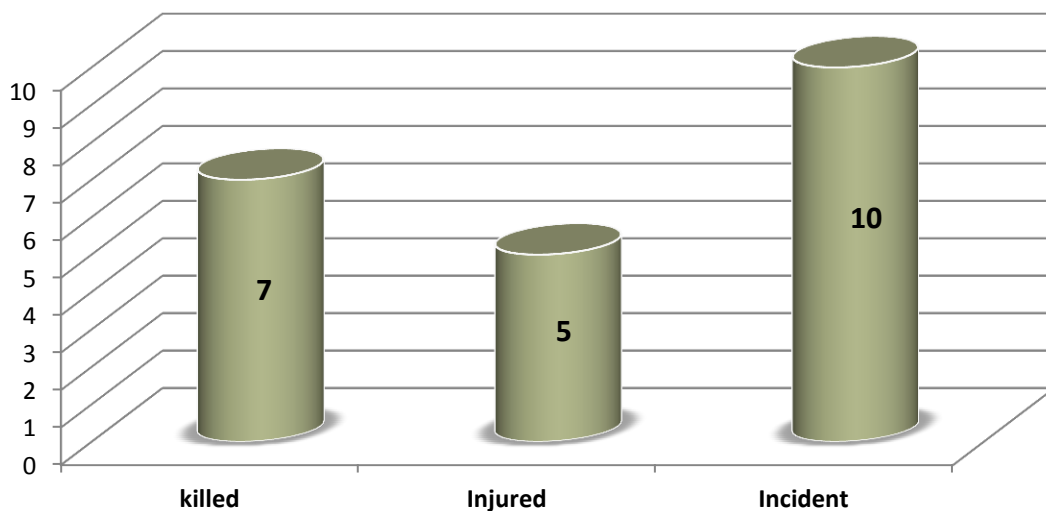


Figure 11: statistics of Public Lynching in September '16

According to human rights support center (HRSC) information, in September 2016, about 05 people have been injured; nearly 07 people were killed in a total of 10 incidents of the public lynching. Some important cases are given below:

On September 6, 2016, Two Marma people were killed as their associates beat them to death at Ankapara of Roansori in Bandarban. The victims were identified as Ukhera Marma, 30, and A Pru Marma, 25, both were residents of Lama Upazila. Officer-in-charge of Roansori police station Omar Ali said around 10:00pm a group of Marma people was returning to their village after attending a discussion program of police over law and order. On the way, the group locked into arguments with each other while they started beating up two of their fellows and ended killing them on the spot.⁷⁵

On September 16, 2016, a man died after he was allegedly beaten up just for claiming his payment for a construction work from a house owner in Raozan upazila of the Chittagong. Construction laborer contractor Mohammad Hanif, 50, died around 3:30am while he was being taken to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH), police said.⁷⁶

⁷⁵ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2016/09/07/24489/>

⁷⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/man-beaten-death-chittagong-1285261>

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

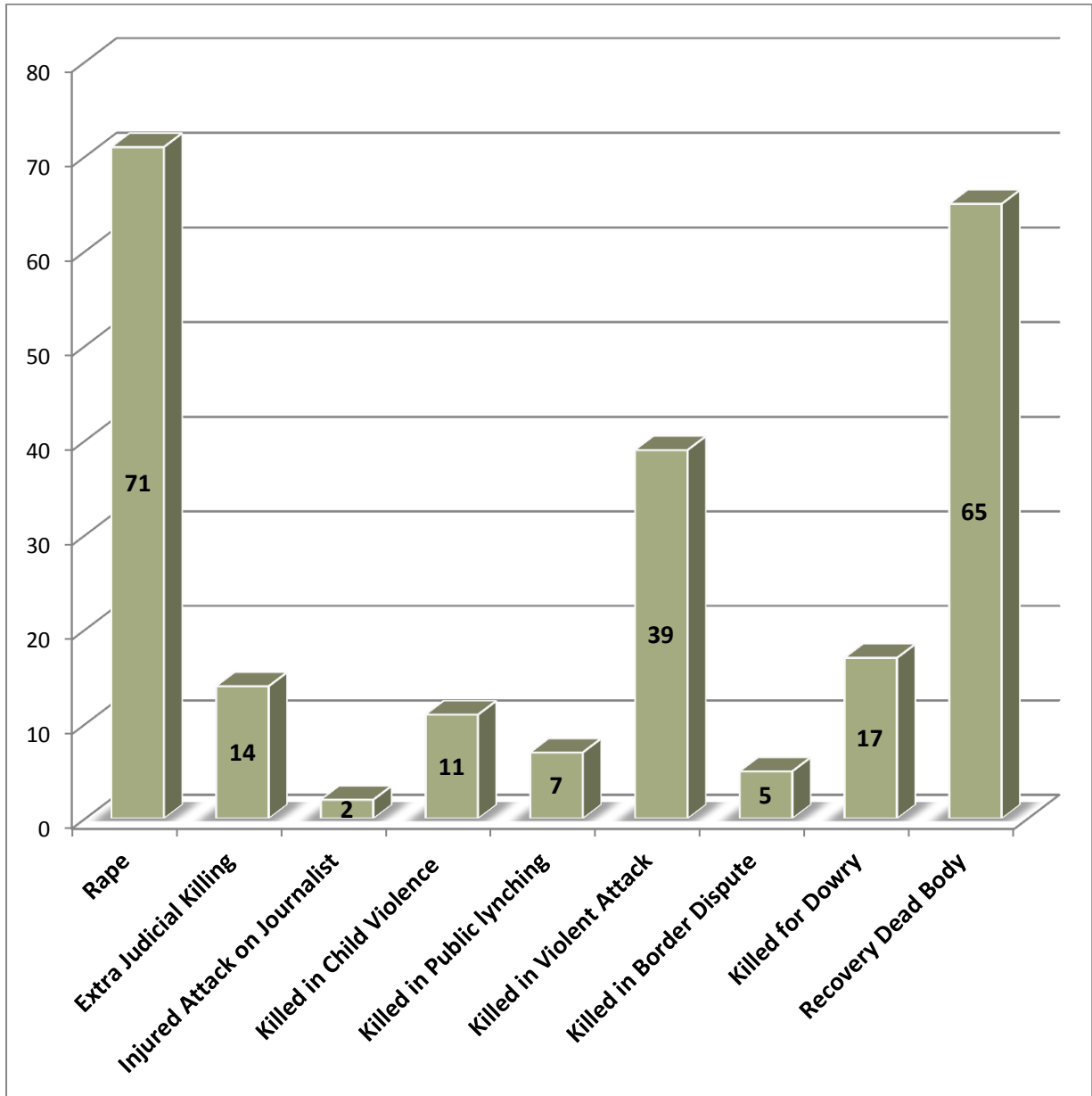


Figure 11: Human Right Situation of Bangladesh at a Glance in September 2016









CONCLUSION

To end with, it is detected that the human rights situation in Bangladesh was pathetic in September 2016. This is mostly because of the failure of the public administration to protect the life and property of the common people. Regularly, 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 than before. 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. Violent attacks, domestic violence, and rape have become significant features of the deterioration of human rights conditions in September 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 happens during the September 2016 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 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 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 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.