

# THE PERSECUTION CONTINUES

Minority Communities Under Sustained Attack in Bangladesh

**JANUARY – APRIL 2026**

Violence. Persecution. Impunity.



A people targeted. A system that fails. A persecution that continues.

**We document. We defend. We call for justice.**



**505+**  
INCIDENTS



**62**  
DISTRICTS



**12+**  
CATEGORIES



**4 MONTHS**  
DOCUMENTED



HUMAN RIGHTS CONGRESS FOR BANGLADESH MINORITIES (HRCBM)



[www.hrcbm.org](http://www.hrcbm.org)



[info@hrcbm.org](mailto:info@hrcbm.org)

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## **Content Advisory**

This report contains photographic material and detailed accounts of human-rights violations, including violence, intimidation, property destruction, religious desecration, sexual violence, abduction, and suspicious deaths. Graphic post-mortem images and highly distressing visual materials have been intentionally excluded wherever possible to protect the dignity of victims and reduce unnecessary viewer distress.

The images included in this report are presented solely for documentation, accountability, and historical record, with respect for the dignity, privacy, and safety of victims, survivors, families, and affected communities.

# 1.0 Executive Summary

This report presents a national documentation of continuing human-rights violations affecting religious and ethnic minority communities in Bangladesh during the period January through April 2026. Based on HRCBM’s four-month incident registry, the organization documented approximately 505 incidents affecting minority communities across Bangladesh during the reporting period. The documented violations span at least 62 districts out of 64 districts of Bangladesh and include killings, mysterious deaths, physical assaults, kidnappings, sexual violence, attacks on temples and religious institutions, land grabbing, arson, looting, mob intimidation, and blasphemy-related persecution.

The findings demonstrate that despite Bangladesh’s transition from the 2025 caretaker/interim administration to an elected government in 2026, patterns of violence and persecution targeting minority communities have continued with alarming consistency. The continuation of attacks across successive governing periods suggests that the crisis facing minorities in Bangladesh is not episodic nor confined to a single political administration, but reflects deeper structural failures involving protection, accountability, law-enforcement response, and societal impunity.

The evidence documented by the Human Rights Congress for Bangladesh Minorities (HRCBM) indicates that attacks against minority communities continue to occur across rural and urban regions alike, affecting religious institutions, family homes, women and girls, Indigenous communities, and economically vulnerable households. The recurrence of similar patterns of violence across multiple districts demonstrates that these incidents cannot be dismissed as isolated local disputes or ordinary criminal acts.

*Table 1. National Snapshot of Documented Violations (January–April 2026).*

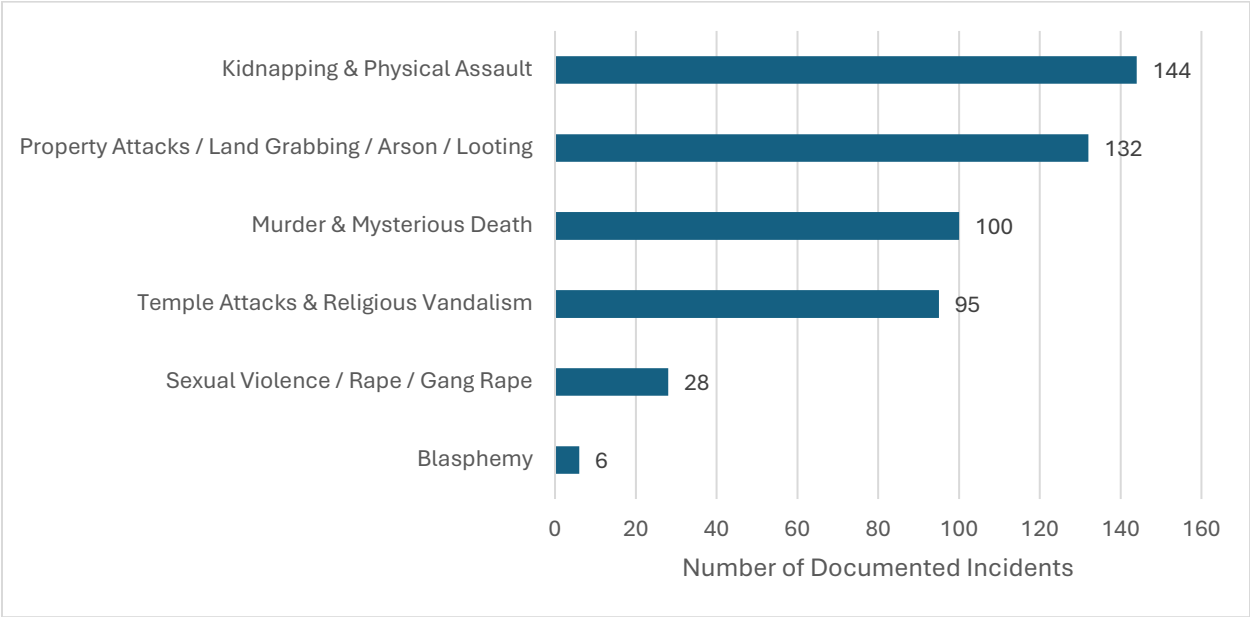
<b>Category</b>	<b>Number of Incidents</b>	<b>District Where Incidents Were Documented</b>
Murder & Mysterious Death	100	47
Kidnapping & Physical Assault	144	49
Sexual Violence / Rape / Gang Rape	28	23
Temple Attacks & Religious Vandalism	95	43
Property Attacks / Land Grabbing / Arson / Looting	132	48
Blasphemy-Related Incidents	6	6
<b>Total Documented Incidents</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>62 districts across all 8 divisions</b>

**Note:** *The district count in each category indicates the number of unique districts where that specific type of incident was documented. It does not refer to the scope of HRCBM’s*

monitoring coverage. The same district may appear across multiple categories. In total, HRCBM documented 505 incidents occurring across 62 districts out of 64 districts and all 8 administrative divisions of Bangladesh.

The breadth of districts where incidents were documented demonstrates that attacks against minority communities are not isolated local incidents, but reflect a geographically widespread pattern of insecurity and vulnerability affecting minority populations across Bangladesh.

Figure 1. Distribution of Documented Violations (January - April 2026).



The cumulative impact of these attacks extends far beyond the immediate victims. Families face psychological trauma, economic collapse, displacement pressure, social intimidation, and growing fear regarding their long-term security and survival within their ancestral communities. Particularly concerning is the continued targeting of Hindu religious institutions and temples, attacks against minority-owned land and homes, violence affecting women and girls, and recurring incidents involving Indigenous communities.

This report builds upon HRCBM’s earlier publication, “116 Minority Killings in 7 Months: Bangladesh’s Crisis of Impunity,” which documented lethal violence between June 2025 and January 2026. While the earlier report focused primarily on killings, custodial deaths, mob lynching, and impunity, the present report expands the analytical lens to examine the

broader ecosystem of persecution affecting minority populations during the first four months of 2026.

The findings presented herein are based on incident registries, field observer documentation, eyewitness testimony, police interactions where available, local verification efforts, and open-source corroboration. Together, these findings raise serious concerns regarding the persistence of structural impunity and the continuing vulnerability of minority communities in Bangladesh.

The continuation of attacks despite political transition raises urgent concerns regarding Bangladesh's ability to ensure equal protection, rule of law, and fundamental human rights for vulnerable minority populations. Without meaningful institutional reform, effective accountability mechanisms, and sustained protection measures, the patterns documented in this report risk contributing to further escalation of communal insecurity, displacement pressure, and atrocity risk affecting minority communities across the country.

***All numerical figures in this documentation represent verified minimums based on cases where identity, location, and incident circumstances could be independently corroborated through HRCBM's documentation process. Due to fear, social stigma, lack of police reporting, media suppression, community intimidation, and barriers to justice, the actual number of incidents is likely higher than reflected in this report, particularly in cases involving sexual violence, abduction, missing persons, land grabbing, threats, coercive marriage or conversion concerns, and intimidation of minority families***

## 1.1 Historical Context and Moral Imperative

For nearly eight decades, minority communities in Bangladesh have endured recurring cycles of violence, dispossession, and institutional abandonment. From the communal pogroms of 1946, through major episodes in 1950, 1964, 1971, and successive waves of persecution in 1989, 1990, 2001, 2004, 2012, 2015, 2021, 2024, 2025 and now 2026, the historical record reveals a tragic continuity: violence against minorities has not been episodic, but structural and reoccurring across generations.

Since 2006, the Human Rights Congress for Bangladesh Minorities (HRCBM) has pursued legal remedies through Bangladesh's courts, filing a sustained series of litigations seeking justice for killings, sexual violence, land dispossession, forced displacement, and communal attacks. Yet across successive governments, justice has remained elusive.

Investigations routinely stall, prosecutions fail, and victims' families face intimidation and neglect. The justice system has remained deeply compromised by political influence and selective enforcement, denying minorities effective protection under the rule of law.

Following the formation of the interim government led by Dr. Muhammad Yunus, the situation deteriorated sharply. The period under review witnessed relentless attacks against minority communities, with violence spreading across districts and divisions at alarming speed. This report documents only one dimension of that violence — the killing of minority citizens. It does not yet encompass the full spectrum of atrocities, including land grabbing, sexual violence, extortion, arson, destruction of temples, and systematic looting of minority-owned homes and businesses, which HRCBM will present through a forthcoming series of investigative reports.



Figure 2. Historical Timeline of Recurring Mass Atrocities Against Minority Communities in Bangladesh (1946–2025).

*Note: This timeline presents major documented episodes of large-scale violence, persecution, and displacement affecting minority communities in the geographic territory of present-day Bangladesh from 1946 to 2025. The recurrence of mass atrocities across colonial, Pakistani, and Bangladeshi political periods demonstrates a persistent pattern of targeted violence spanning generations. When examined alongside contemporary killings and demographic decline, the timeline provides historical context for understanding current atrocities as part of a long-running process of structural persecution and enduring impunity.*

When viewed alongside the historical timeline (Figure 2) and demographic evidence (Figure 3), the killings of 2025–2026 emerge not as isolated crimes, but as part of a continuing process of targeted destruction that bears the hallmarks of reoccurring genocidal crime.

## 1.2 Demographic Evidence of Structural Persecution

Demographic data spanning 1946 to 2020 reveals a stark and deeply troubling transformation. While the total population of the territory increased more than fourfold during this period, the proportion of minority communities — particularly Hindus and other non-Muslim populations — collapsed from approximately 30% in 1946 to less than 9% by 2020.

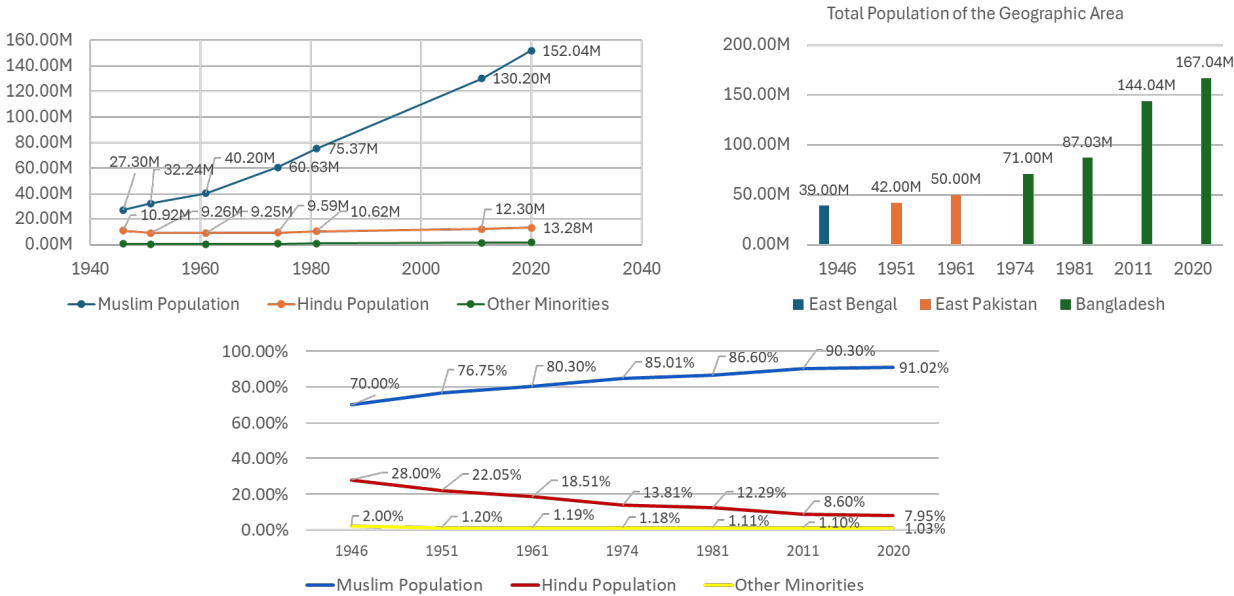


Figure 3. Demographic Transformation and Decline of Minority Populations in Bangladesh (1946–2020)

Note: This figure illustrates the long-term demographic transformation of the population in the geographic territory of present-day Bangladesh from 1946 to 2020. While the total population of the territory increased more than fourfold over this period, the proportion of minority communities—particularly Hindus and other non-Muslim populations—declined precipitously from approximately 28% to 30% in 1946 to less than 9% by 2020 (please refer to red and yellow line in bottom graph). The persistent contraction of minority populations, occurring alongside recurrent episodes of communal violence, forced displacement, and systemic impunity, suggests that these changes cannot be explained by natural demographic trends alone but reflect sustained patterns of targeted persecution and structural exclusion.

This decline cannot be explained by natural demographic variation alone. When examined alongside decades of communal violence, forced displacement, land dispossession, and persistent impunity, the demographic shift raises grave concerns of systematic ethnic cleansing through sustained coercion and insecurity. The killings documented in this report represent the lethal endpoint of a much broader process that has steadily eroded minority

presence across Bangladesh.

### 1.3 What Happened

Between January and April 2026, the Human Rights Congress for Bangladesh Minorities (HRCBM) documented approximately 505 incidents affecting religious and ethnic minority communities across at least 49 districts of Bangladesh.

The documented incidents include killings and mysterious deaths, physical assaults, kidnappings, sexual violence, attacks on temples and religious institutions, land grabbing, arson, looting, mob intimidation, and acts of communal persecution occurring in both rural and urban settings. The reporting period also included at least six documented incidents linked to blasphemy allegations or accusations of religious insult targeting minority individuals and communities, several of which reportedly contributed to mob hostility, threats, social intimidation, or heightened communal tensions.

The incidents documented in this report demonstrate that violence against minorities in Bangladesh is neither isolated nor confined to a particular locality. Rather, the recurrence of similar forms of violence across multiple districts and divisions reveals a geographically widespread pattern of insecurity, vulnerability, and institutional failure affecting minority populations throughout the country. This report compiles verified case data, eyewitness testimony, field documentation, police interactions where available, open-source evidence, and local corroboration to present one of the most comprehensive civil-society assessments to date regarding continuing persecution affecting minority communities during the first four months of 2026.

The findings further indicate that despite Bangladesh's political transition from the 2025 caretaker/interim administration to an elected government in 2026, attacks against minority communities have continued with alarming consistency, raising concerns that the underlying drivers of persecution and impunity remain unresolved.

### 1.4 Why It Matters

The scale, geographic spread, and recurring patterns of the incidents documented in this report reveal a profound and continuing failure of protection, accountability, and equal access to justice for minority communities in Bangladesh.

Delayed or absent First Information Reports (FIRs), weak investigations, intimidation of victims' families, social pressure to avoid legal action, and limited or absent prosecution of perpetrators have contributed to a climate of persistent impunity. This environment not only enables continued violence but also erodes public trust in institutions, deepens

communal fear, accelerates displacement pressure, and increases the long-term insecurity of already vulnerable populations. Particularly concerning is the continued targeting of minority religious institutions, women and girls, economically vulnerable households, minority-owned land and property, and individuals accused under blasphemy-related allegations or religiously inflammatory narratives. Such accusations, whether substantiated or fabricated, continue to create conditions that place vulnerable minority individuals at heightened risk of mob hostility, social exclusion, intimidation, and violence. The cumulative effect extends beyond immediate physical harm and contributes to broader social destabilization, psychological trauma, demographic insecurity, and the gradual erosion of minority presence in affected regions.

Unchecked, these dynamics pose serious risks to social cohesion, democratic stability, rule of law, and Bangladesh's obligations under both domestic constitutional protections and international human-rights conventions. The continuation of attacks despite political transition further raises concerns that the persecution of minority communities is not merely episodic, but reflects deeper structural failures requiring urgent national and international attention.

## 1.5 What Is New in This Report

This report presents one of the most comprehensive recent civil-society documentations of continuing persecution affecting religious and ethnic minority communities in Bangladesh within a defined contemporary time frame.

Unlike conventional incident reporting or isolated media coverage, this report is based on a manually curated and cross-verified national incident registry documenting a broad spectrum of human-rights violations occurring between January and April 2026. The registry was developed through field investigations, direct communication with local communities, interactions with police stations where possible, victim and family testimony, open-source corroboration, and structured review of incident-level information.

The report expands beyond documentation of killings alone and examines the wider ecosystem of insecurity, intimidation, dispossession, and communal targeting affecting minority populations across Bangladesh.

The report includes:

- A national incident registry documenting killings, physical assaults, kidnappings, sexual violence, attacks on religious institutions, land grabbing, arson, looting, blasphemy-related incidents, and broader forms of communal persecution;

- Geospatial mapping and descriptive statistical analysis identifying district-level distributions, geographic concentrations, recurring hotspots, and emerging patterns of violence;
- A structured typology of persecution categorizing dominant forms of abuse, recurring triggers, institutional response failures, and patterns of communal targeting;
- Impunity indicators derived from police and judicial response behavior, including FIR delays, weak investigations, intimidation of victims' families, arrest outcomes, and case stagnation;
- Representative case studies illustrating recurring institutional failures, communal vulnerability, and the human impact of continuing persecution;
- And a detailed casebook annex documenting incident summaries, victim profiles where available, geographic distribution, and verification status.

Together, these elements transform individual incidents into a broader evidence-based national assessment of recurring persecution, structural vulnerability, and institutional failure affecting minority communities in Bangladesh.

The report further contributes to ongoing human-rights documentation efforts by identifying patterns that may serve as early-warning indicators of escalating communal insecurity, displacement pressure, and long-term erosion of minority safety and dignity within affected regions.

## 1.6 What We Can Prove vs. What We Allege

### **What We Can Prove**

The incidents documented in this report are supported by structured and cross-verified evidence obtained through multiple independent sources wherever possible. These sources include field observer reports, direct communication with victims and family members, local community verification, corroborated media reporting, photographic or video documentation, police interactions, and official records where available.

HRCBM applied a multi-source verification methodology designed to improve evidentiary reliability, transparency, and consistency across incident documentation. Each incident entry was reviewed according to available supporting evidence, and confidence tiers were assigned where appropriate to distinguish between highly corroborated cases and incidents where verification remains partially constrained by access limitations, fear of retaliation, institutional non-cooperation, or security concerns. The report documents a broad spectrum of violations affecting minority communities, including killings, mysterious deaths, physical assaults, kidnappings, sexual violence, attacks on temples and religious institutions, land grabbing, arson, looting, mob intimidation, and blasphemy-related persecution.

## What We Allege

Based on the compiled evidence, HRCBM identifies recurring and systemic patterns of delayed investigations, reluctance or failure to register First Information Reports (FIRs), weak law-enforcement response, intimidation of victims' families, limited prosecutorial action, and broader institutional failures affecting the protection of minority communities.

The report further identifies recurring characteristics of communal targeting, vulnerability linked to religious identity, and patterns of impunity that appear repeatedly across multiple districts and incident categories. Under the Bangladesh Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (CrPC), law-enforcement authorities possess clear statutory obligations in cases involving cognizable offences and serious violence.

- Section 154 of the CrPC requires that when information relating to a cognizable offence is received, the officer-in-charge of a police station shall reduce the information to writing and register it as an FIR.
- Section 156(1) authorizes police to investigate cognizable offences without prior order from a Magistrate once information has been received.
- Section 157 requires police officers to proceed with investigation where there exists reasonable suspicion that a cognizable offence has occurred.

In several documented incidents, victims' families, local witnesses, and community members reported delays in FIR registration, reluctance to initiate investigation promptly, pressure to avoid legal proceedings, or limited visible progress in investigation and prosecution. In some cases, police reportedly cited procedural or evidentiary limitations despite the existence of substantial allegations of violence or communal targeting.

If substantiated through formal legal review, such practices may be inconsistent with the due-diligence obligations of state authorities to prevent, investigate, and respond effectively to serious violence and human-rights violations affecting vulnerable populations. Taken together, the patterns documented in this report support HRCBM's allegation that minority communities in Bangladesh continue to face structural vulnerabilities compounded by institutional weaknesses and persistent impunity. These findings are grounded in documented evidence but are presented as allegations and analytical assessments intended for legal, institutional, policy, and international human-rights review.

This report does not claim judicial authority. Rather, it seeks to contribute to evidence-based documentation, accountability discussions, and informed examination of continuing human-rights concerns affecting minority communities in Bangladesh.

## 1.7 Human Impact

Behind each statistic documented in this report lies a devastated family, a traumatized community, and a deepening sense of insecurity among already vulnerable populations. Families affected by killings, assaults, sexual violence, land dispossession, arson, and communal attacks frequently suffer consequences extending far beyond the immediate incident itself. Parents have lost children, children have become orphans, women and girls have faced fear and social stigma following sexual violence or harassment, and in many cases the affected individual was the primary income earner of the household, plunging entire families into sudden economic crisis.

Overnight, families may lose not only loved ones, but also their means of survival — including housing stability, agricultural land, business assets, food security, educational continuity for children, and access to basic medical care. Minority-owned homes, shops, and religious institutions damaged through attacks or intimidation often represent generations of accumulated family security and cultural identity.

Widows, elderly parents, and displaced families are frequently left without meaningful institutional support, relying on relatives, local charity, or fragile community assistance networks. Survivors and witnesses in several documented incidents reportedly faced intimidation, social pressure, or fear of retaliation when attempting to seek justice or publicly speak about abuses. The psychological impact is equally severe. Recurrent violence, rumors of attacks, blasphemy-related hostility, threats against religious institutions, and fear of future targeting contribute to widespread communal anxiety and long-term trauma, particularly among children, women, and elderly community members. In some affected areas, families reported considering relocation or abandoning ancestral homes due to growing insecurity and fear of further violence.

The cumulative effect of these incidents extends beyond immediate physical harm. The patterns documented in this report contribute to broader social fragmentation, economic destabilization, displacement pressure, psychological trauma, erosion of communal confidence, and long-term demographic insecurity affecting minority communities across Bangladesh. This report therefore documents not only individual incidents of violence, but also the broader human consequences of continuing persecution, institutional failure, and the gradual erosion of safety, dignity, and stability for some of Bangladesh's most vulnerable citizens.

## 2. Key Findings

The Human Rights Congress for Bangladesh Minorities (HRCBM) documented a significant and geographically widespread pattern of violence, intimidation, and persecution affecting minority communities in Bangladesh during the reporting period from January through April

2026. Based on verified incident documentation, field investigations, eyewitness testimony, media monitoring, and local human-rights observer reporting, HRCBM recorded a total of 505 documented incidents involving religious and ethnic minorities across Bangladesh during the four-month reporting period.

The findings demonstrate that the documented abuses were not isolated or localized events. Rather, the incidents reveal recurring patterns of violence, intimidation, sexual abuse, land grabbing, attacks on places of worship, mob aggression, and institutional failures affecting minority communities across multiple administrative divisions of the country.

## 2.1 Geographic Spread and Concentration

The documented incidents reveal a widespread and multidimensional pattern of violence affecting minority communities across Bangladesh during the January–April 2026 reporting period. HRCBM documented incidents spanning all eight administrative divisions of the country, demonstrating that the persecution was not confined to isolated local disputes or singular communal flashpoints.

The geographic distribution of the incidents indicates a nationwide pattern involving:

- killings and suspicious deaths,
- physical assaults and abductions,
- sexual violence,
- temple attacks and religious vandalism,
- land grabbing and property-related crimes,
- intimidation,
- extortion,
- and communal pressure targeting minority populations.

The figure below illustrates the divisional distribution of documented incidents affecting minority communities across Bangladesh.

he highest concentration of documented incidents was recorded in:

- Chattogram Division (114 incidents),
- Dhaka Division (98 incidents),
- Khulna Division (84 incidents),

- and Rangpur Division (66 incidents).

These regions collectively accounted for a substantial proportion of the documented abuses during the reporting period.

The incident patterns further demonstrate that minority insecurity affects both:

- densely populated metropolitan regions,
- and geographically remote rural or Indigenous-populated areas.

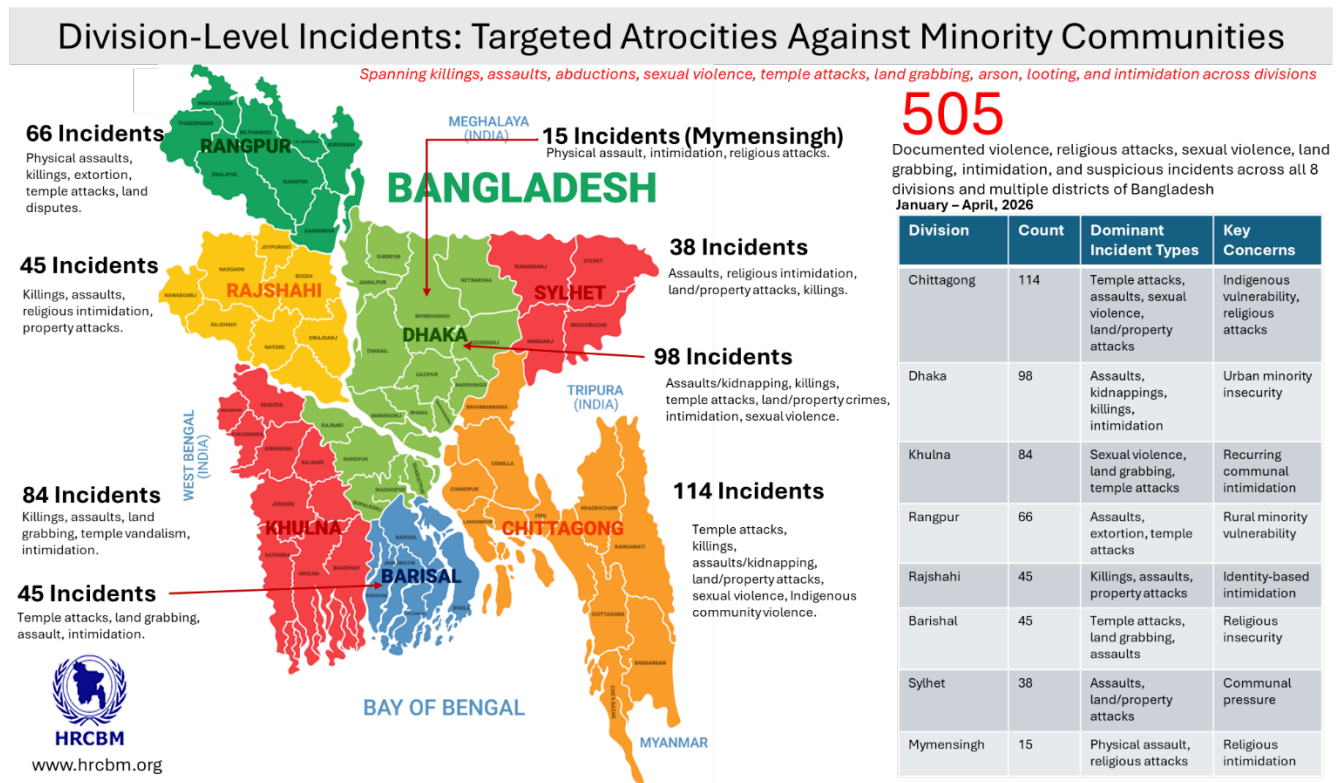


Figure 4. Division-Level Distribution of Documented Violence and Persecution Against Minority Communities (January–April 2026).

Documented incidents occurred across:

- urban centers,
- municipalities,
- villages,
- border districts,
- university campuses,

- and religious institutions, indicating that minority communities remain vulnerable regardless of geographic location.

Several significant regional patterns emerged from the data:

- Chattogram Division demonstrated a particularly severe concentration of temple attacks, assaults, sexual violence, land/property attacks, and incidents affecting Indigenous communities.
- Dhaka Division showed elevated levels of assaults, kidnappings, killings, intimidation, and land/property-related crimes in both urban and peri-urban regions.
- Khulna Division recorded repeated incidents involving killings, assaults, land grabbing, and attacks on religious institutions.
- Rangpur and Rajshahi divisions demonstrated recurring patterns of assault, extortion, intimidation, and property-related violence affecting rural minority populations.
- Sylhet and Mymensingh divisions, although lower in total incident counts, continued to exhibit patterns of communal pressure, religious intimidation, and localized insecurity.

The recurrence of similar incident typologies across geographically distant divisions undermines claims that the violence represents isolated or purely localized disturbances. Instead, the findings indicate broader structural vulnerabilities affecting minority communities nationwide.

*Table 2. Division-Level Distribution and Dominant Patterns of Documented Incidents (January–April 2026).*

Division	Count	Dominant Incident Types	Key Concerns
Chattogram	114	Temple attacks, assaults, sexual violence, land/property attacks	Indigenous vulnerability, religious attacks
Dhaka	98	Assaults, kidnappings, killings, intimidation	Urban minority insecurity
Khulna	84	Killings, assaults, land grabbing, temple vandalism	Recurring communal intimidation
Rangpur	66	Physical assaults, extortion, temple attacks	Rural minority vulnerability
Rajshahi	45	Killings, assaults, property attacks	Identity-based intimidation
Barishal	45	Temple attacks, land grabbing, assaults	Religious insecurity
Sylhet	38	Assaults, land/property attacks	Communal pressure
Mymensingh	15	Physical assault, religious attacks	Religious intimidation

**Note:** This table summarizes documented incidents affecting minority communities across the administrative divisions of Bangladesh during the January–April 2026 reporting period. The incident categories include killings, physical assault, abduction, sexual violence, temple attacks, land grabbing, intimidation, extortion, and other forms of persecution documented by HRCBM. The distribution demonstrates both the nationwide scope of the violence and the recurrence of similar patterns across geographically dispersed regions, indicating persistent structural vulnerabilities affecting minority communities throughout Bangladesh.

## 2.2 Incident Typologies

The incidents documented by HRCBM during the January–April 2026 reporting period reveal a multidimensional pattern of persecution affecting minority communities across Bangladesh. The documented abuses extended beyond isolated acts of violence and reflected broader patterns of communal intimidation, religious persecution, gender-based vulnerability, economic coercion, and institutional insecurity.

The diversity and recurrence of these incident categories demonstrate that minority communities were subjected not only to episodic physical attacks, but also to sustained forms of psychological, social, religious, and economic pressure affecting community safety, dignity, and continuity.

The principal incident typologies documented during the reporting period are summarized in Figure 5.

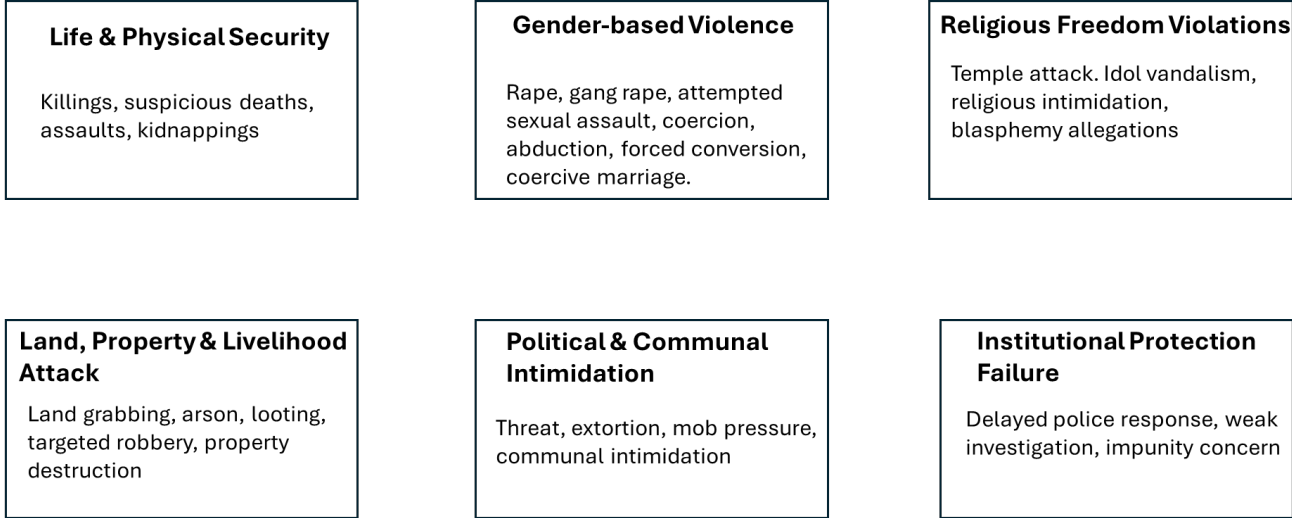


Figure 5. Typology of Documented Incidents by Human-Rights Impact (January–April 2026).

The documented incidents broadly affected six major areas of human-rights concern:

- life and physical security,
- gender-based violence and coercion,
- religious freedom,
- land, property, and livelihood security,
- political and communal intimidation,
- and institutional protection and access to justice.

### *2.2.1 Life and Physical Security*

A substantial number of documented incidents involved:

- killings,
- suspicious deaths,
- physical assault,
- mob violence,
- abduction,
- kidnapping,
- and violent intimidation.

Several incidents reportedly occurred in public places, residential areas, marketplaces, educational institutions, and transportation routes, contributing to an atmosphere of fear and insecurity among minority populations.

The recurrence of physical violence across multiple divisions indicates persistent vulnerabilities affecting minority communities regardless of geographic location.

### *2.2.2 Gender-Based Violence and Coercion*

HRCBM documented incidents involving:

- rape,
- gang rape,
- attempted sexual assault,
- coercion,
- gender-based intimidation,
- abduction,
- and allegations involving forced conversion or coercive marriage affecting minority girls.

Several incidents raised serious concerns regarding:

- bodily autonomy,
- child protection,
- freedom of religion or belief,
- and protection of minority women and girls from exploitation and communal targeting.

Although lower in numerical proportion compared to assault-related incidents, these abuses remain among the most severe categories documented due to their long-term physical, psychological, and social consequences.

### *2.2.3 Religious Freedom Violations*

The reporting period included repeated incidents involving:

- temple attacks,
- idol vandalism,
- religious desecration,
- attacks on religious gatherings,
- forced removal of religious materials,
- communal intimidation,
- and blasphemy-related allegations targeting minority individuals or institutions.

The recurrence of attacks against temples and religious symbols across multiple districts demonstrates continuing vulnerability surrounding the protection of minority religious identity and religious freedom in Bangladesh.

Such incidents contribute not only to physical destruction, but also to psychological intimidation and erosion of communal security.

### *2.2.4 Land, Property, and Livelihood Attacks*

HRCBM documented recurring incidents involving:

- land grabbing,
- attacks on minority homes,
- robbery,
- arson,
- extortion,
- looting,
- and destruction of economically significant property.

Several incidents reportedly involved intimidation designed to pressure minority families into surrendering land, abandoning property claims, or leaving affected areas.

The data indicate that economic coercion and property-related intimidation remain major structural drivers of minority insecurity.

### *2.2.5 Political and Communal Intimidation*

The documented incidents also included:

- threats,
- extortion,
- communal pressure,
- public intimidation,
- organized harassment,
- and politically charged hostility directed at minority individuals and institutions.

Several incidents reportedly involved efforts to silence victims, discourage legal action, or intimidate communities through fear-based tactics.

The recurrence of intimidation-related incidents across geographically dispersed divisions indicates persistent social vulnerability affecting minority populations.

### *2.2.6 Institutional Protection Failures*

Multiple documented incidents raised concerns regarding:

- delayed police response,
- weak investigations,
- failure to preserve evidence,
- lack of arrests,
- impunity,
- and insufficient protection for vulnerable victims and witnesses.

In several cases, local communities reportedly expressed frustration regarding inadequate investigative urgency or ineffective institutional response mechanisms.

The persistence of such concerns contributes to:

- fear,
- underreporting,
- diminished trust in institutions,
- and prolonged insecurity among minority communities.

### *2.2.7 Emerging Structural Patterns*

Despite differences in incident category, several recurring structural patterns emerged across the documented cases, including:

- identity-based targeting,
- communal intimidation,
- religious vulnerability,
- gender-based exploitation,
- economic coercion,

- and institutional accountability concerns.

The repetition of similar incident typologies across geographically distant regions undermines claims that the violence represents isolated criminal acts or localized disturbances alone.

Rather, the cumulative findings indicate a broader and continuing environment of insecurity affecting minority communities across Bangladesh.

### 3. Methodology and Verification Standard

This report was produced using a structured human-rights documentation methodology designed to ensure accuracy, transparency, consistency, and evidentiary reliability. Given the high-risk environment in which many incidents occurred, particular care was taken to corroborate information through multiple independent sources and to apply consistent verification standards across all recorded cases.

The methodology used in this report follows internationally recognized principles of human-rights documentation, including source corroboration, victim protection, evidence preservation, and responsible reporting standards appropriate for conflict-sensitive and vulnerable-community environments.

#### 3.1 Data Sources

Information contained in this report was compiled from the following primary and secondary sources:

- HRCBM field observers and local coordinators operating across districts and divisions
- Direct testimony from victims, family members, witnesses, and community representatives
- Hospital and medical documentation, including post-incident treatment records where accessible
- Police documentation, including General Diary (GD) entries, FIR references, and station-level confirmations
- Court records and legal documentation where available
- Corroborated media reporting from national and local news outlets
- Photographic, video, and digital evidence received from affected communities
- Local human-rights defenders, journalists, and civil society networks

Wherever possible, each documented case was evaluated using at least two independent corroborating sources.

## 3.2 Inclusion Criteria: What Qualifies as a Documented Incident

An incident was included in the registry if it satisfied one or more of the following conditions:

- Physical assault, abduction, kidnapping, or violent intimidation targeting minority individuals or communities
- Murder, lynching, suspicious death, or death occurring under circumstances suggesting foul play
- Sexual violence, rape, gang rape, attempted sexual assault, or gender-based coercion
- Forced conversion allegations, coercive marriage, or incidents affecting freedom of religion or belief
- Temple attacks, idol vandalism, religious desecration, or attacks on religious gatherings or institutions
- Land grabbing, destruction of homes, arson, looting, extortion, or property-related intimidation
- Threats, communal intimidation, or organized harassment directed at minority individuals or institutions
- Incidents involving alleged institutional negligence, delayed response, or failure to provide equal protection under law

Natural deaths, unverifiable rumors, duplicate reports, and incidents lacking minimum credibility thresholds were excluded from the final registry.

## 3.3 Duplicate Elimination and Data Integrity

To ensure the integrity and reliability of the dataset:

- All case entries were cross-checked by name, date, location, incident description, and available supporting documentation
- Apparent duplicates arising from multiple reports of the same incident were consolidated into a single verified record
- Incidents involving multiple victims were recorded as a single incident entry while maintaining victim-specific details in supporting datasets where applicable
- Ongoing corrections, updates, and revisions are tracked through formal version control procedures

Where inconsistencies or conflicting reports existed, additional verification was conducted prior to inclusion whenever feasible.

### 3.4 Confidence Levels and Verification Tiers

Each documented incident was assigned a confidence tier based on the strength and reliability of available evidence:

- **Tier A (High Confidence):** Supported by official police, hospital, court, or institutional documentation and/or at least two independent corroborating sources.
- **Tier B (Moderate Confidence):** Supported by corroborated eyewitness testimony combined with local verification conducted by HRCBM field observers or trusted local sources.
- **Tier C (Preliminary Confidence):** Based on credible initial reports where full verification remains pending due to security risks, restricted access, institutional non-cooperation, or ongoing investigation.

Cases are periodically reviewed and may be updated or reclassified as additional evidence becomes available.

### 3.5 Ethical Safeguards

HRCBM applied strict ethical and victim-protection standards throughout the documentation and reporting process, including:

- Protection of victim dignity in language, imagery, and representation
- Redaction of sensitive personal details where disclosure could endanger survivors, victims, or witnesses
- Special care regarding cases involving sexual violence, minors, and vulnerable individuals
- Informed consent obtained prior to publication of family testimony or identifying information where feasible
- Application of the “do no harm” principle in investigative, archival, and publication decisions

These safeguards were implemented to ensure that efforts to document violations and pursue accountability do not expose affected individuals or communities to further risk or retraumatization.

## 4.0 Statistical Analysis

This section presents descriptive statistical analysis of documented incidents affecting minority communities in Bangladesh during the January–April 2026 reporting period. The statistical findings are based on incident entries verified through HRCBM’s documentation and cross-verification methodology, including field observation, victim testimony, corroborated media reporting, and supporting institutional records where available.

The figures presented in this section reflect documented incident counts rather than individual victim totals. The analysis includes multiple categories of human-rights violations, including:

- killings and suspicious deaths,
- physical assault and abduction,
- sexual violence,
- temple attacks and religious vandalism,
- land grabbing and property-related crimes,
- intimidation,
- and other forms of persecution affecting minority communities.

Where demographic or incident-specific attributes were incomplete or unavailable, the report explicitly acknowledges such limitations and avoids unsupported inference or over-interpretation.

### 4.1 Monthly Distribution of Documented Killing Incidents

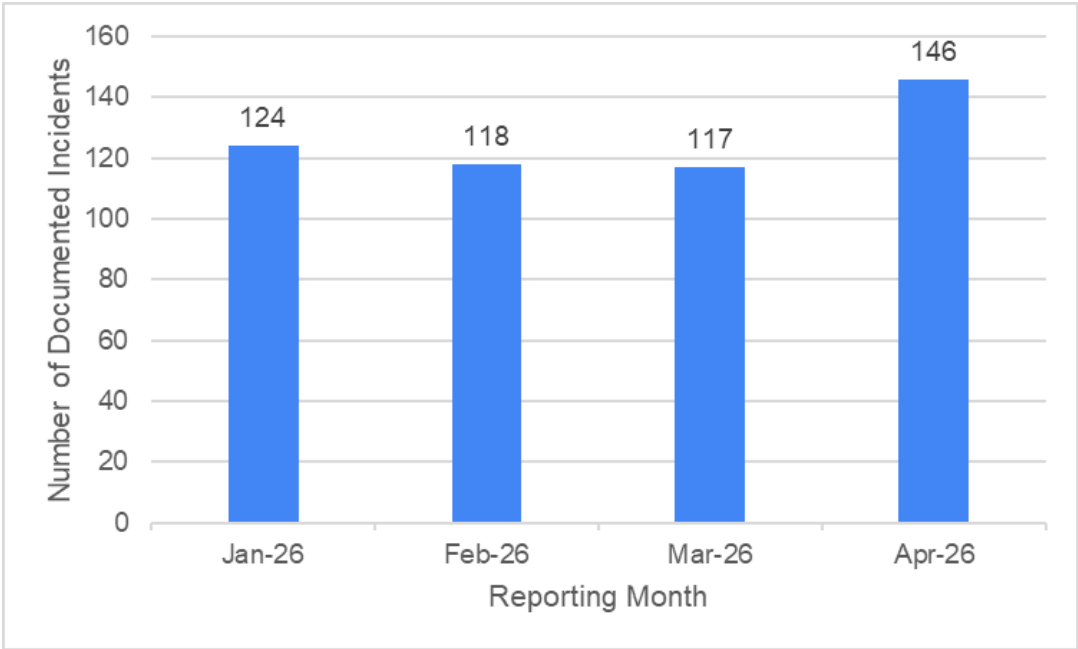


Figure 6. Monthly Trend of Documented Killing Incidents (June 6, 2025 – December 2025)

Figure 6 illustrates the monthly progression of documented incidents affecting minority communities between January and April 2026. The data reveal a sustained pattern of violence and persecution throughout the reporting period, with incident levels remaining consistently high across consecutive months.

The reporting period begins in January 2026 with 124 documented incidents. Although February (118 incidents) and March (117 incidents) show modest numerical declines, the overall incident volume remained persistently elevated, indicating the continuation of widespread insecurity affecting minority communities across Bangladesh.

A significant escalation is observed in April 2026, when documented incidents increased sharply to 146, representing the highest monthly total recorded during the reporting period. The April increase reflects continuing patterns of:

- physical assault,
- kidnapping,
- religious attacks,
- land grabbing,
- intimidation,
- and sexual violence documented across multiple divisions.

The relatively narrow fluctuation between January and March suggests that the violence was not episodic or isolated to short-term communal disturbances. Rather, the data indicate a persistent environment of insecurity in which incidents continued to occur at high frequency across geographically dispersed regions.

The sharp increase observed in April further demonstrates the absence of sustained de-escalation during the reporting period and raises serious concerns regarding:

- institutional protection failures,
- inadequate deterrence mechanisms,
- recurring communal vulnerability,
- and the normalization of violence and intimidation directed at minority communities.

Overall, the monthly distribution demonstrates that the documented abuses during the January–April 2026 reporting period constituted a continuing and widespread human-rights concern rather than isolated criminal events.

## 4.2 District Hotspots

An examination of the district-level incident registry shows that documented violence and persecution against minority communities were geographically widespread across Bangladesh during the January–April 2026 reporting period. Incidents were recorded across **all eight administrative divisions** and **62 districts**, demonstrating that the pattern

of abuse was national in scope rather than confined to isolated local disputes or a limited number of communal flashpoints.

Based on the district-coded entries reviewed in the incident registry, HRCBM documented **505 incidents** across 62 districts. The distribution reflects documented incident entries, not individual victim counts. In cases where a single incident affected multiple individuals, families, or institutions, the incident is counted once for geographic distribution purposes.

At the divisional level, the highest concentration of documented incidents was recorded in **Chattogram Division**, with **116 incidents**, followed by **Dhaka Division** with **94 incidents**, **Khulna Division** with **84 incidents**, and **Rangpur Division** with **67 incidents**. Together, these four divisions accounted for **361 of the 505 documented incidents**, representing approximately **71.5%** of all incidents recorded during the reporting period.

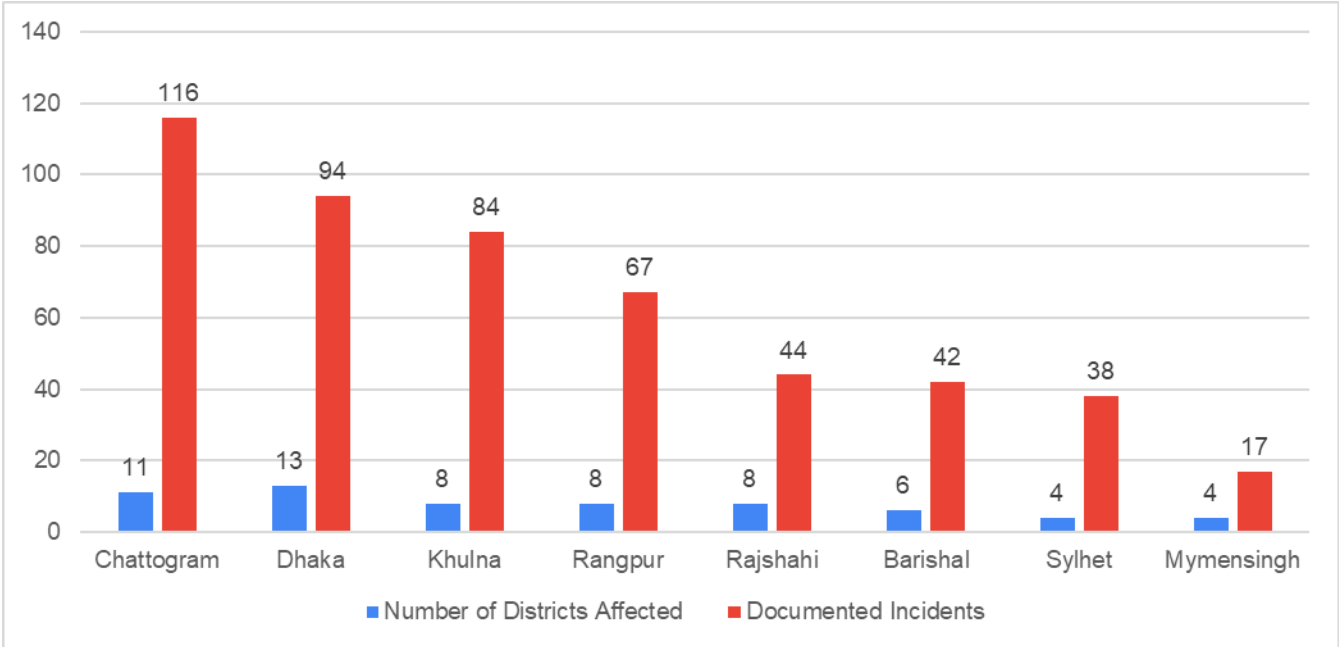


Figure 7. Division-Level Distribution of Documented Incidents (January - April 2026).

The district-level data reveal several major hotspots. The highest district concentrations were recorded in **Chattogram District, Khulna District, Dhaka District, Satkhira, Barishal, Cox’s Bazar, Cumilla, Rangpur, Thakurgaon, Faridpur, Habiganj, Gaibandha, Noakhali, and Patuakhali**. These districts show repeated documentation across multiple incident typologies, including killings and suspicious deaths, physical assault, kidnapping, sexual violence, temple attacks, land grabbing, arson, looting, intimidation, and other forms of persecution.

The distribution demonstrates that minority insecurity affected both urban and rural communities. Incidents were documented in metropolitan areas, district towns, rural unions, coastal regions, border districts, tea garden areas, and Indigenous-populated hill

districts. The recurrence of similar incident patterns across geographically distant districts indicates that the documented abuses cannot be explained solely as isolated criminal acts. Rather, the data point to broader structural vulnerabilities affecting minority communities across Bangladesh.

Table 3. District-Level Distribution of Documented Incidents by Division (January–April 2026)

Division	District	Count
Chittagong	Chaittgong Sadar (চট্টগ্রাম)	43
	Cox's Bazar (কক্সবাজার)	14
	Cumilla (কুমিল্লা)	14
	Noakhali (নোয়াখালী)	11
	Feni (ফেনী)	9
	Bandarban (বান্দরবান)	5
	Khagrachhari (খাগড়াছড়ি)	5
	Lakshmipur (লক্ষ্মীপুর)	5
	Brahmanbaria (ব্রাহ্মণবাড়িয়া)	4
	Chandpur (চাঁদপুর)	4
	Rangamati (রাঙামাটি)	2
Dhaka	Dhaka Sadar (ঢাকা)	20
	Faridpur (ফরিদপুর)	13
	Gazipur (গাজীপুর)	7
	Gopalganj (গোপালগঞ্জ)	7
	Madaripur (মাদারীপুর)	7
	Manikganj (মানিকগঞ্জ)	7
	Narsingdi (নরসিংদী)	7
	Tangail (টাঙ্গাইল)	6
	Kishoreganj (কিশোরগঞ্জ)	5
	Munshiganj (মুন্সিগঞ্জ)	5
	Narayanganj (নারায়ণগঞ্জ)	4
	Rajbari (রাজবাড়ী)	4
	Shariatpur (শরীয়তপুর)	2
Khulna	Khulna (খুলনা)	33
	Satkhira (সাতক্ষীরা)	18

Division	District	Count
	Bagerhat (বাগেরহাট)	9
	Jashore (যশোর)	6
	Jhenaidah (ঝিনাইদহ)	6
	Narail (নড়াইল)	6
	Magura (মাগুরা)	5
	Kushtia (কুষ্টিয়া)	1
Rangpur	Rangpur (রংপুর)	13
	Thakurgaon (ঠাকুরগাঁও)	13
	Gaibandha (গাইবান্ধা)	12
	Dinajpur (দিনাজপুর)	10
	Kurigram (কুড়িগ্রাম)	6
	Panchagarh (পঞ্চগড়)	6
	Nilphamari (নীলফামারী)	5
	Lalmonirhat (লালমনিরহাট)	2
Rajshahi	Naogaon (নওগাঁ)	10
	Bogura (বগুড়া)	9
	Pabna (পাবনা)	8
	Joypurhat (জয়পুরহাট)	5
	Natore (নাটোর)	4
	Sirajganj (সিরাজগঞ্জ)	4
	Chapainawabganj (চাঁপাইনবাবগঞ্জ)	2
	Rajshahi (রাজশাহী)	2
Barishal	Barishal (বরিশাল)	17
	Patuakhali (পটুয়াখালী)	11
	Bhola (ভোলা)	5
	Jhalokathi (ঝালকাঠি)	4
	Pirojpur (পিরোজপুর)	5
	Barguna (বরগুনা)	3
Sylhet	Habiganj (হবিগঞ্জ)	13
	Sylhet (সিলেট)	9

Division	District	Count
	Moulvibazar (মৌলভীবাজার)	8
	Sunamganj (সুনামগঞ্জ)	8
Mymensingh	Netrokona (নেত্রকোনা)	8
	Mymensingh (ময়মনসিংহ)	6
	Jamalpur (জামালপুর)	2
	Sherpur (শেরপুর)	1

### 4.3 Vulnerable Groups and Community Impact

Beyond the geographic and temporal distribution of documented incidents, the January–April 2026 incident registry reveals the broad social impact of violence and persecution on minority communities across Bangladesh. Unlike the previous killing-focused report, this dataset includes multiple categories of incidents, including killings and suspicious deaths, physical assault, kidnapping, sexual violence, temple attacks, land grabbing, arson, looting, robbery, intimidation, blasphemy-related allegations, and institutional protection failures.

Because many incidents affected families, religious institutions, businesses, villages, temples, and community groups rather than a single individually identified victim, the available data do not support a complete statistical gender or age distribution. In several cases, age, gender, religion, ethnicity, and individual victim identity were either not available, not applicable, or not consistently recorded. For this reason, this report avoids presenting a formal gender or age distribution chart and instead identifies recurring vulnerable groups and forms of harm documented in the incident registry.

The data show that the impact of violence and persecution extended across multiple social groups, including women and girls, children and students, elderly persons, religious leaders, Indigenous and ethnic minority communities, business owners, farmers, workers, teachers, and economically vulnerable families.

#### 4.3.1 Women, Girls, and Gender-Based Vulnerability

Women and girls appeared repeatedly in documented incidents involving sexual violence, attempted rape, gang rape, abduction, missing-person cases, coercion, forced or coercive marriage allegations, threats of sexual violence, and public intimidation.

The registry includes **28 incidents categorized as sexual violence, rape, or gang rape**, indicating that gender-based violence remained a serious component of the broader

pattern of minority persecution. Several additional cases involved missing minority girls, abduction concerns, forced or coercive marriage allegations, and gender-based coercion affecting school-age girls and young women.

These incidents raise serious human-rights concerns regarding bodily autonomy, child protection, freedom of religion or belief, access to justice, and protection from gender-based violence. The recurrence of such incidents also indicates that minority women and girls face intersecting vulnerabilities arising from both gender and religious or ethnic identity.

#### *4.3.2 Children, Students, and Youth*

The incident registry includes multiple cases involving schoolchildren, college students, university students, and young adults. These cases include missing students, attacks on students, suspicious deaths, forced or coercive marriage concerns, religious intimidation in educational environments, and violence affecting children within targeted families.

Several documented incidents involved girls who disappeared while going to school, college, or private tutoring. Other incidents involved students subjected to harassment, institutional pressure, or threats linked to religious identity. These cases indicate that minority children and youth are not only physically vulnerable but also exposed to educational disruption, psychological fear, and long-term insecurity.

The presence of children and students in the registry demonstrates that the impact of persecution extends beyond immediate physical harm and affects the ability of minority families to educate, protect, and raise their children without fear.

#### *4.3.3 Elderly Persons, Widows, and Persons with Disabilities*

The registry also includes incidents affecting elderly individuals, widows, and persons with disabilities. These cases involved missing elderly persons, suspicious deaths, physical attacks, land-related pressure, robbery, intimidation, and economic exploitation.

Such cases demonstrate the heightened vulnerability of individuals who may lack physical capacity, social protection, financial security, or institutional access. Attacks or coercive pressure against elderly persons and widows often produce broader household-level consequences, especially where the victim is connected to land, housing, inheritance, or livelihood security.

The inclusion of disabled and elderly victims in the dataset further illustrates that minority insecurity affects those least able to protect themselves or navigate legal remedies independently.

#### *4.3.4 Religious Institutions, Clergy, and Community Worship*

A major portion of the registry involved attacks on religious institutions and sacred property. The report records **95 incidents involving temple attacks, religious vandalism, idol desecration, theft, arson, looting, land grabbing, or attacks affecting religious sites.**

These incidents affected temples, idols, cremation grounds, religious gatherings, priests, religious caretakers, and community worship spaces. The harm caused by these attacks extends beyond property damage. Such incidents directly affect religious freedom, collective dignity, cultural continuity, and the psychological security of minority communities.

The repeated targeting of religious institutions indicates that minority communities face not only personal insecurity but also threats to their collective religious life.

#### *4.3.5 Business Owners, Workers, Farmers, and Livelihood Earners*

The registry also shows repeated attacks affecting minority livelihoods. Incidents included robbery of businesses, attacks on gold traders and shopkeepers, extortion, theft, land grabbing, crop destruction, arson, looting, and attacks on farmers, transport workers, teachers, and wage earners.

The report records **132 incidents involving attacks on minority homes, land grabbing, arson, looting, robbery, or property-related violence.** Many of these incidents directly affected household income, business continuity, agricultural production, and long-term economic survival.

In several cases, violence against individuals was accompanied by the destruction or seizure of land, crops, shops, homes, religious property, or business assets. These patterns suggest that persecution often operates through economic coercion as well as physical violence.

#### *4.3.6 Indigenous and Ethnic Minority Communities*

The registry includes incidents affecting Indigenous and ethnic minority communities, particularly in the Chattogram Hill Tracts and other vulnerable regions. Documented cases involved Mro, Tripura, Chakma, and other ethnic minority individuals and communities, as well as tea garden and marginalized occupational communities.

These incidents included physical assault, land-related attacks, threats, suspicious deaths, and community intimidation. The recurring connection between land, identity, and violence in these cases raises serious concerns regarding Indigenous land rights, community security, and equal protection under law.

### 4.3.7 Community-Level Harm

The documented incidents show that harm was not limited to individual victims. Many cases affected entire families, neighborhoods, religious communities, occupational groups, or village-level minority populations.

The registry demonstrates cascading impacts on:

Vulnerable Group	Documented Forms of Harm
<b>Women and girls</b>	Sexual violence; abduction; missing-person cases; coercive marriage concerns; intimidation.
<b>Children and students</b>	Disappearance; assault; educational disruption; religious intimidation; coercion.
<b>Elderly persons and widows</b>	Missing-person cases; suspicious deaths; land pressure; physical vulnerability.
<b>Religious institutions and clergy</b>	Temple attacks; idol vandalism; arson; theft; threats; religious obstruction.
<b>Business owners and workers</b>	Robbery; extortion; assault; murder; destruction of livelihood.
<b>Farmers and rural families</b>	Land grabbing; crop destruction; arson; intimidation; displacement pressure.
<b>Indigenous and ethnic minorities</b>	Land-related attacks; physical violence; threats; community insecurity.
<b>Urban minority residents</b>	Suspicious deaths; robbery; assault; institutional harassment; intimidation.

Note: This figure summarizes recurring vulnerable groups and forms of harm identified in the incident registry. It does not represent a complete statistical age or gender distribution because many documented incidents affected families, institutions, businesses, religious sites, or communities rather than individually coded victims.

Figure 8. Vulnerable Groups and Forms of Harm Documented in the Incident Registry.

Overall, the available demographic indicators demonstrate that violence and persecution affected minority communities across age, gender, profession, class, and geography. The consequences extended beyond individual injury or property loss, damaging family stability, livelihood security, religious freedom, educational continuity, women’s safety, and the ability of minority communities to live with dignity and security.

## 4.4 Institutional Response, Access to Justice, and Impunity Concerns

Analysis of the documented incident registry reveals recurring concerns regarding institutional response, access to justice, and the persistence of impunity in cases affecting minority communities. Unlike a single-category homicide registry, the January–April 2026

dataset includes a broad range of documented incidents, including killings and suspicious deaths, sexual violence, abduction, missing-person cases, temple attacks, land grabbing, arson, looting, extortion, intimidation, and attacks on homes, businesses, and religious institutions.

While complete quantitative indicators—such as FIR registration delays, arrest rates, charge-sheet status, prosecution outcomes, and conviction data—were not uniformly available across all documented cases, the registry contains repeated qualitative indicators of inadequate protection, delayed accountability, and weak institutional deterrence.

These findings are based on HRCBM field documentation, direct local reporting, victim and family accounts, media reports, and available case references, including GD numbers, police involvement, complaints, and community-level follow-up where available. The incident registry includes examples where police reportedly rescued victims but no immediate arrests were made, where families reported lack of administrative support in land-related incidents, and where victims or families faced threats after pursuing justice or resisting coercion.

#### *4.4.1 Core Institutional Response Patterns Observed*

Across the incident registry, HRCBM observed several recurring institutional response concerns:

##### **Delayed or inadequate preventive protection**

In multiple incidents, victims and communities reported that threats, land pressure, intimidation, or insecurity existed before violence escalated. In several cases involving land grabbing, extortion, threats, or attacks on religious institutions, affected families stated that they had sought help or attempted to protect their rights, but meaningful preventive action was either absent or insufficient.

This pattern was particularly visible in incidents involving land grabbing, property intimidation, temple attacks, and threats against minority families.

##### **Limited or delayed accountability after incidents**

The registry includes several cases where crimes were reported to authorities, but available information did not indicate timely arrest, prosecution, or visible progress. In one early sexual-violence-related incident, police reportedly reached the scene and rescued victims, but no accused person was immediately arrested, raising concerns about deterrence and accountability.

##### **Reliance on GDs and complaints rather than visible prosecution outcomes**

Several cases in the registry reference General Diary entries, written complaints, or police notification. While these records are important, the available data often do not establish whether the matter progressed to full criminal investigation, formal FIR registration, charge-sheet submission, or prosecution. This limits the ability to measure accountability outcomes and reflects the need for stronger case-tracking.

### **Threats and pressure on victims or families**

The registry includes incidents in which victims or family members reportedly faced threats after pursuing justice, resisting land grabbing, or refusing pressure. In one documented case, a family member of a prior killing victim was reportedly threatened to withdraw a case, illustrating the vulnerability of victims' families and the risk of secondary intimidation.

### **Weak protection in land and property-related cases**

Land grabbing, crop destruction, temple land encroachment, forced construction, arson, looting, and property-related intimidation appear repeatedly in the dataset. In several cases, affected families alleged that powerful local actors ignored court orders, prior disputes, or administrative processes. These patterns suggest that minority land and property insecurity remains a major driver of continuing vulnerability.

### **Mixed institutional response**

The registry also records cases where police visited the scene, recovered bodies, received complaints, arrested suspects, or initiated preliminary action. Therefore, the issue should not be framed as complete institutional absence in every case. Rather, the concern is the inconsistency of response, the lack of visible follow-through in many incidents, and the recurring perception among affected communities that justice remains uncertain.

#### *4.4.2 Legal and Due-Diligence Concerns*

The documented patterns raise serious concerns regarding the state's duty to protect vulnerable communities, investigate credible allegations of violence, prevent further harm, and ensure equal access to justice. Where minority victims report violence, threats, sexual abuse, land grabbing, religious attacks, or intimidation, authorities have an obligation to respond promptly, impartially, and effectively.

In cases involving killings, suspicious deaths, sexual violence, abduction, attacks on religious institutions, and organized intimidation, failure to investigate promptly may contribute to further insecurity and reinforce perceptions of impunity.

The available data suggest that institutional concerns are not limited to one type of incident. Rather, they appear across multiple categories, including:

- missing-person cases,
- suspicious deaths,
- sexual violence,
- temple attacks,
- land grabbing,
- attacks on businesses and homes,
- threats to withdraw cases,
- and intimidation against vulnerable families.

This indicates that the challenge is not merely case-specific but connected to broader protection gaps affecting minority communities.

#### *4.4.3 Implications*

The persistence of weak or inconsistent institutional response has several serious implications.

First, it contributes to fear and underreporting. Minority families may hesitate to report abuses if they believe that complaints will not result in meaningful protection or accountability.

Second, it increases vulnerability to repeat attacks. When perpetrators perceive that intimidation, land grabbing, sexual violence, temple attacks, or physical assaults can occur without timely consequences, deterrence weakens.

Third, it deepens community-level insecurity. Many incidents affected not only individual victims, but also families, religious institutions, businesses, and entire local communities. In such cases, lack of visible justice produces psychological harm beyond the immediate incident.

Fourth, it reinforces structural impunity. Even where formal complaints or GDs are filed, the absence of publicly visible progress can leave victims without confidence that justice will be achieved.

Overall, the incident registry demonstrates that institutional response and access to justice remain central concerns in the protection of minority communities in Bangladesh. The documented patterns point to the need for systematic case tracking, transparent investigation, protection of victims and witnesses, timely prosecution, and independent monitoring of state response.

#### *4.4.4 Long-Term Accountability Deficit and Barriers to Justice*

HRCBM's documentation of the January–April 2026 incidents must be understood within a longer institutional history of accountability failure affecting minority communities in

Bangladesh. HRCBM's experience over nearly two and half decades indicates that cases involving violence, land grabbing, religious persecution, sexual violence, and killings of minorities are rarely resolved in a manner that delivers meaningful justice to victims and their families.

Since 2006, HRCBM has pursued a series of public-interest litigations and legal actions concerning the protection of minority communities, recurring communal violence, land dispossession, and failures of state protection. However, HRCBM's experience has been that these matters have not received the urgency, seriousness, or sustained judicial attention required by the scale of the violations. In several instances, proceedings have been delayed for prolonged periods, not taken up for effective hearing, or left without meaningful judicial remedy.

This long-term pattern is not merely procedural. For affected minority communities, delayed justice often functions as denied justice. When cases remain pending, unheard, or unresolved, victims and witnesses lose confidence in domestic remedies, perpetrators perceive impunity, and vulnerable communities remain exposed to repeated violence.

HRCBM has also sought international accountability mechanisms, including submission of relevant documentation and legal materials to the International Criminal Court and other international bodies. However, HRCBM has not yet received clear progress indicating that such concerns have resulted in effective international accountability or prosecutorial action. This reinforces the urgent need for sustained international monitoring, independent investigation, and stronger diplomatic engagement on minority protection in Bangladesh.

The incidents documented in this report therefore should not be treated as isolated events awaiting ordinary case-by-case resolution. They must be viewed against a broader backdrop of prolonged institutional inaction, delayed judicial response, weak enforcement, and limited accountability for violations affecting minority communities.

HRCBM urges national authorities, the judiciary, international human-rights mechanisms, diplomatic missions, and relevant UN bodies to recognize this accountability gap as a structural driver of continuing persecution. Without credible investigation, timely prosecution, victim and witness protection, and independent oversight, the cycle of violence, intimidation, dispossession, and impunity will continue.

## 5.0 Pattern Narratives: How the Persecution Unfolds

While earlier sections present the scale, geographic spread, and statistical distribution of documented incidents, this section explains how violence and persecution unfold in practice. Drawing from the January–April 2026 incident registry, the following narratives identify recurring mechanisms through which minority individuals, families, religious institutions, businesses, and communities were targeted.

The cases presented below are representative examples selected from the broader registry. They are not the only incidents of each type; rather, they illustrate repeated patterns documented across districts and divisions, including religious attacks, land grabbing, gender-based violence, suspicious deaths, abductions, economic coercion, political intimidation, and institutional protection failures.

## 5.1 Attacks on Temples, Idols, and Religious Institutions

A major recurring pattern in the registry is the targeting of temples, idols, religious gatherings, cremation grounds, and sacred community spaces. These attacks included vandalism, arson, theft, looting of donation boxes, destruction of idols, obstruction of religious practice, and encroachment on temple land.

These incidents are not merely property crimes. For minority communities, temples and sacred spaces serve as centers of worship, memory, identity, and collective security. Attacks on these institutions therefore create fear far beyond the immediate physical damage.

*Table 4. Representative Cases of Attacks on Temples, Idols, and Religious Institutions, with HRCBM Case Reference Numbers*

SL	Date	District	Incident Pattern	Summary
2	1 Jan 2026	Madaripur	Temple vandalism	Radha Krishna temple in Madaripur Sadar reportedly vandalized.
14	5 Jan 2026	Barishal	Temple demolition / land grabbing	Historic Durga temple reportedly demolished and land forcibly occupied.
38	13 Jan 2026	Khulna	Idol vandalism	Saraswati/Ras Puja idol at Shibbati Ras temple vandalized.
52	16 Jan 2026	Cumilla	Historic temple destruction	Approximately 200-year-old Kali temple reportedly demolished with excavator assistance.
81	22 Jan 2026	Gopalganj	Temple arson and idol vandalism	Two Hindu temples reportedly attacked with arson and idol destruction.
125	2 Feb 2026	Kishoreganj	Puja mandap arson	Saraswati Puja temporary mandap reportedly set on fire.
128	3 Feb 2026	Faridpur	Idol vandalism	Kali temple idols reportedly vandalized after a religious event.
130	3 Feb 2026	Jhenaidah	Cremation ground / temple vandalism	Mahashmashan and Kali temple idols reportedly damaged.

<b>SL</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Incident Pattern</b>	<b>Summary</b>
183	14 Feb 2026	Sylhet	Temple arson	Gaur-Nitai temple reportedly set on fire; scriptures and religious items burned.
190	14 Feb 2026	Nilphamari	Idol vandalism	Kali idol reportedly vandalized at cremation-ground temple.
199	17 Feb 2026	Chattogram	Temple arson	Magdeshwari temple reportedly set on fire.
220	23 Feb 2026	Chapainawabganj	Attack on temple	Bricks reportedly thrown at Radhagobinda temple.



*Figure 9. SL 2: Radha Krishna Temple, Madaripur Sadar — Reported vandalism of a Hindu place of worship, where the idol of Goddess Radha was desecrated and its head severed, raising serious concerns over religious freedom, sacred property protection, and minority*



*Figure 9. Demolition of historic Durga temple, Gournadi, Barishal — HRCBM SL 14.*

*Note: Composite image showing the reported demolition of a nearly 150-year-old Durga temple in Sundari Mohalla, Gournadi, Barishal. According to HRCBM documentation, the temple structure was allegedly demolished, its land forcibly occupied, and idols reportedly dumped into the Palardi River, prompting local outrage and serious concerns regarding religious freedom, sacred property protection, and minority security.*



*Figure 10. SL 38: Rash Puja idols at Municipal Shibbati Rash Temple, Paikgachha, Khulna, were reportedly vandalized, causing fear and resentment among the local Hindu community.*

*Note: The image shows visible damage to Rash Puja idols following reported vandalism at the Municipal Shibbati Rash Temple in Paikgachha Upazila, Khulna District. The incident represents a serious violation of minority religious belief, religious freedom, and the security of places of worship.*



Figure 11. SL 52: Historic Kali Temple, Barura, Cumilla — Composite image showing the aftermath of the reported demolition and desecration of an approximately 200-year-old Kali temple. The image on the right shows the partially unearthed idol of Goddess Kali placed under a makeshift shelter by local devotees after the attack; the image on the left shows members of the local Hindu community protesting the destruction and demanding accountability.



Figure 12. SL 81: Two Hindu temples in Gopalganj were reportedly attacked in an arson attempt, leaving one idol severely burned and another shrine's sacred idols almost completely gutted. The incident reflects a grave assault on minority religious faith, sacred property, and the security of places of worship, deepening fear and insecurity among the local Hindu community.



Figure 13. SL 125: A temporary Saraswati Puja pavilion at Modok Para Sadhu Bari in Karimganj, Kishoreganj, was reportedly set ablaze by miscreants during the early morning hours. The image shows the idol of Goddess Saraswati severely burned, gutted, and defaced, reflecting a grave attack on Hindu religious freedom, sacred worship, and the sentiments of the local minority community.



Figure 14. SL 128: Multiple idols at Malopara Sarbojanin Sri Sri Ma Kali Temple, Faridpur, were reportedly vandalized after a seven-day religious program, with visible defacement, damage, and desecration of sacred figures.

*Note: The image above shows the aftermath of a reported nighttime attack on multiple idols at the Malopara Sarbojanin Sri Sri Ma Kali Temple in Bhatilakshmipur, Faridpur city. According to HRCBM documentation, unknown perpetrators entered the temple after the conclusion of a seven-day religious program and vandalized the idols under cover of darkness. The visible defacement and desecration raise serious concerns regarding religious freedom, sacred property protection, and minority security.*



*Figure 15. SL 183: Sri Sri Gour-Nitai Temple in Tarapur Tea Garden, Sylhet, was reportedly set ablaze, burning the Holy Gita, religious scriptures, and images of Hindu deities kept inside the temple.*

*Note: Composite images showing the aftermath of a reported arson attack at Sri Sri Gour-Nitai Temple in the Tarapur Tea Garden area of Sylhet. Local residents reportedly noticed smoke from inside the temple and brought the fire under control. The fire burned religious scriptures, images of Hindu deities, and sacred materials, raising grave concerns over religious freedom and minority security.*



*Figure 16. SL 190: The idol of Goddess Kali at Saballipara Cremation Ground Kali Temple in Nilphamari was reportedly vandalized, causing fear and outrage among the local Hindu community.*



*Figure 17. SL 199: Magdeshwari Ma Temple, Boalkhali, Chattogram — A reported arson attack targeted the temple premises, with flames visible near the shrine area in this video still. The incident raises serious concerns over the safety of Hindu places of worship, religious freedom, and the vulnerability of minority religious institutions to deliberate acts of intimidation and desecration.*



*Figure 18. CCTV footage reportedly captured a miscreant throwing stones at the Radhagobinda Temple in Huzrapur, Chapainawabganj, during the night. The image shows the alleged attack in progress and supports concerns regarding deliberate intimidation, attempted damage to a Hindu place of worship, and the vulnerability of minority religious institutions after dark.*

## 5.2 Land Grabbing, Property Destruction, and Economic Dispossession

A second recurring pattern involves land grabbing, forced occupation, crop destruction, house attacks, arson, and economic coercion. In many cases, minority families reported that land or property disputes were accompanied by threats, violence, intimidation, or lack of administrative protection.

This pattern is particularly serious because land and property insecurity has historically been one of the major drivers of minority displacement in Bangladesh. Attacks on land, homes, crops, businesses, and livelihood assets weaken the economic foundation of minority families and create pressure to leave.

Table 5. Representative Cases of Land Grabbing, Property Destruction, and Economic Dispossession, Referenced by HRCBM Reference case Number

SL	Date	District	Incident Pattern	Summary
4	2 Jan 2026	Cox's Bazar	Land grabbing attempt	Hindu family land reportedly targeted; at least three injured while resisting.
9	4 Jan 2026	Rangpur	Forced land occupation	Minority family's land reportedly cultivated by a large group without protection from authorities.
23	6 Jan 2026	Netrokona	Cremation land encroachment	Hindu cremation ground and grazing land reportedly threatened by local influential persons.
43	14 Jan 2026	Bagerhat	Land grabbing and assault	Minority family allegedly attacked over land; elderly couple assaulted.
80	22 Jan 2026	Shariatpur	Land-dispute attack	Poor Hindu family reportedly attacked; several family members injured.
110	30 Jan 2026	Barishal	Forced land occupation	Elderly minority man's inherited land allegedly occupied for house construction.
116	31 Jan 2026	Naogaon	Court-order violation / land grabbing	Hindu family's land reportedly targeted despite pending case and court injunction.
117	31 Jan 2026	Sirajganj	Temple land encroachment	Temple land, trees, and sacred property reportedly damaged or occupied.
119	31 Jan 2026	Kurigram	Forced land occupation	Hindu family's land reportedly occupied and planted despite complaints.
140	5 Feb 2026	Feni	Road and land obstruction	Access road used by Hindu families allegedly blocked through forced construction.

SL	Date	District	Incident Pattern	Summary
180	13 Feb 2026	Gaibandha	Large-scale land grabbing	Approximately 15 acres reportedly targeted; arson and looting also alleged.
197	17 Feb 2026	Patuakhali	Post-election land grabbing	Minority property reportedly occupied after election.
214	22 Feb 2026	Patuakhali	Land intimidation	Hindu family reportedly threatened and pressured over land.



*Figure 19. Attempted land grab targeting a Hindu family near a BGB camp in Cox's Bazar — video grab showing police inspecting the reported incident site after the attack. Four members of the minority family were reportedly injured while resisting the alleged forcible occupation of their land.*



*Figure 20. SL 9 (video grab): A large group of individuals reportedly occupied a paddy field belonging to a minority family in Pirganj, Rangpur. The family alleged that 100–150 people entered and cultivated the land by force, while claiming the family had no right to the property because of their minority identity. The incident raises serious concerns regarding minority land rights, administrative inaction, and economic dispossession.*



*Figure 21. SL 23 (video grab): A large group of people reportedly attacked members of the local Hindu minority community at Galgoli Vita, Mohanganj, Netrokona, after the community objected to the alleged illegal seizure of their ancestral cremation ground and adjoining government grazing land. The incident reflects a grave pattern in which minority communities face violence not only over homes and livelihoods, but even when defending sacred cremation spaces tied to funeral rites, dignity, and religious continuity.*



*Figure 22. SL 80: A Hindu family in Ramvadrpur Village, Bhedarganj, Shariatpur, was reportedly attacked following a land-related dispute, leaving at least six people injured, including women and elderly family members. The image shows one of the severely injured minority women receiving treatment at Bhedarganj Upazila Health Complex. According to HRCBM documentation, the victims later reported continuing threats of arson against Hindu homes in the area, deepening fear and insecurity among local minority families.*

বরাবর,  
অফিসার ইনচার্জ  
বানারীপারা থানা  
বরিশাল জেলা।

আবেদন ট্র্যাকিং নং: Q5YH55  
তারিখ: ২৫/০১/২০২৬

বিষয় : সাধারণ জায়েদী তথ্য আবেদন প্রসঙ্গে।

জনন,

আমি নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী সুহাস চন্দ্র শীল (৬৫), পিতা: বীরেন্দ্র নাথ শীল, মাতা : শান্তি লতা, জাতীয় পরিচয় পত্র নং : ৫৯৮৪০৫১৮০৮, তিফান(ছাত্রী) - গ্রাম - , থানা -বানারীপারা, জেলা -বরিশাল ও তিফানা(মহাকবি)-৪০/১ দক্ষিণ তফলাপুত্র, গ্রাম-দক্ষিণ কমলপুর কবরস্থান পলি, ইউনিয়ন/ওয়ার্ড-৩০২ নং-৮, থানা-বরিশাল, জেলা-সাকা, মোবাইল নং -০১৭৭৮৮৯৮৬৭৯।

বরাবর অফিসার ইনচার্জ বানারীপারা থানা বরিশাল। বিষয়: জমি জোরপূর্বক দখল, হুমকি ও তহবিল গ্রহণের বিষয়ে সাধারণ জায়েদী লিপিবদ্ধকরণ প্রসঙ্গে। মহোদয়, বিনীত নিবেদন এই যে, আমি সুহাস চন্দ্র শীল, পিতা:বীরেন্দ্র নাথ শীল সাং বড়চাউলকটি গ্রাম, ৪নং তাহার ইউনিয়ন, থানা: বানারীপারা, জেলা: বরিশাল। আমি জন্মসূত্রে জমির মালিক এবং উক্ত জমি দীর্ঘদিন যাবৎ শান্তিপূর্ণভাবে জোগানবল করে আসছি। এই মর্মে জানাইতেছি যে, ১২/০১/২০২৬ ইং তারিখ দুপুর আনুমানিক ২:০০ ঘটিকার সময় মৃত ইতনুস ফকিরের ছেলে সোহাগ ফকির ও তার মা স্থানীয় কিছু সরাসরি প্রকৃতির লোকজনকে সঙ্গে নিয়ে জোরপূর্বক আমার মালিকানাধীন জমির জমি, বড়চাউলকটি, বড়চাউলকটি জমি দখল করে। তারা উক্ত জমিতে মাটি বেলে ও জমি কুপিয়ে ব্যাপক ক্ষতিসাধন করে। এ সময় আমি তাদেরকে বৈধ কাগজপত্র নিয়ে বসায় জন্য বদলি করে তারা আমাকে অকথ্য তাহার পালানাদি করে এবং প্রাণনাশসহ বিভিন্ন ধরনের হুমকি ও ভয়প্রদর্শন করে। তারা ভবিষ্যতে আরও ক্ষতি করবে বশির্ষা হুমকি প্রদান করে। উক্ত ঘটনায় আমি ও আমার পরিবারের সদস্যরা চরম আতঙ্ক ও নিরাপত্তাহীনতার মধ্যে দিন যাপন করিতেছি। অতএব মহোদয়ের নিকট সর্বদিক আবেদন, উপরোক্ত ঘটনার বিষয়ে সাধারণ জায়েদী হিসেবে লিপিবদ্ধ করিয়া ভবিষ্যতের জন্য শাইশামুশ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণের সুযোগ রাখার জন্য প্রয়োজনীয় ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করিবেন। বিনীত নিবেদন নাম: সুহাস চন্দ্র শীল মোবাইল নং:০১৭৭৮৮৯৮৬৭৯ তারিখ:২৫/০১/২০২৬ সমস্যাশাস্ত্র, উপরোক্ত বিষয়টি ভবিষ্যতের জন্য সাধারণ আইনগত কার্যক্রম বাবা একান্ত প্রয়োজন। অতএব, উপরোক্ত বিষয়টি আগ্রহ্য রাখায় সাধায়ে আইনগত কার্যক্রম গ্রহণের মর্মে হয়।

বিনীত  
সুহাস চন্দ্র শীল  
মোবাইল-০১৭৭৮৮৯৮৬৭৯  
ইমেইল-happy0198@gmail.com

Figure 23. SL 110: Police complaint submitted by Subhash Chandra Shil, a 65-year-old Hindu minority resident of Banaripara, Barishal, alleging forcible occupation of his inherited land, intimidation, and threats connected to the construction of a house on disputed property. The complaint reflects a recurring pattern of land-related pressure against minority families, where property insecurity, threats, and weak enforcement create prolonged fear and vulnerability.



*Figure 24. SL 116 (video grab): Land grabbing reportedly in progress in Nazipur Municipality, Porsha Upazila, Naogaon, where a Hindu minority family alleges that influential individuals attempted to forcibly occupy their land despite an ongoing legal dispute and court restrictions. The image illustrates a recurring pattern of minority land insecurity, where vulnerable families are pressured through force, intimidation, and disregard for legal protections.*



*Figure 25. SL 117: Sri Sri Shyam Sundar Dev Thakur Shiva Temple, Tarash, Sirajganj — Influential local Md. Abdul Mannan is alleged to have forcibly occupied portions of the temple’s 3.29-acre land and cut down trees within the temple premises, including two Tal trees, three Eucalyptus trees, and branches of a century-old Banyan tree. The incident reflects a recurring pattern of encroachment on minority religious property, where sacred land, temple assets, and community heritage are placed under pressure through local influence and alleged illegal occupation.*



*Figure 26. SL 119: Ulipur, Kurigram — Monmohon Ray and his Hindu minority family alleged that approximately 135 decimals of their purchased and inherited land in Hokdanga Bharatpara were forcibly occupied by neighbors, who planted Boro paddy seedlings on the disputed land. Despite filing a written complaint with the police, the family reported that no effective administrative action was taken for over a week, while they continued to face threats, intimidation, and psychological pressure.*



*Figure 27. SL 180 (video grab): Alleged attack in progress during a land-grabbing incident in Lakshmipur Village, Sadullapur, Gaibandha, where approximately 15 acres of land belonging to minority community member Nikhil Chowdhury were reportedly targeted for forcible occupation. HRCBM documentation records allegations of intimidation, assault, arson, and looting by Shamim and his associates, reflecting a grave pattern of minority land dispossession, economic coercion, and insecurity faced by vulnerable rural families.*



*Figure 28. SL 197 (video grab): Alleged post-election land grabbing of minority-owned property at Sarkar Bari near Alipura Bazar, Bauphal, Patuakhali. The image shows a structure reportedly erected on land belonging to a Sanatan Hindu family after the property was forcibly occupied, allegedly in violation of a court order and while local administration was preoccupied with election-related duties. The incident raises serious concerns over minority land rights, displacement pressure, disregard for judicial protection, and post-election insecurity affecting vulnerable Hindu families.*



Figure 29. SL 214: Gopal Majhi, a member of a Hindu minority family from Morichbunia Union, Patuakhali Sadar, appeals for protection during a press conference at the Patuakhali Press Club after alleging land grabbing, armed intimidation, and threats of forced displacement. According to his statement, locally influential individuals attempted to seize approximately 40 decimals of family land, threatened the household with locally made weapons, obstructed his children's schooling, and pressured the family to leave the country. The case reflects a serious pattern of minority land insecurity, intimidation, and denial of equal protection under law.

### 5.3 Gender-Based Violence, Abduction, and Coercive Marriage or Conversion Concerns

A particularly grave pattern in the registry involves minority women and girls facing sexual violence, attempted rape, abduction, coercive marriage, threats of sexual violence, disappearance, and coercion linked to religious conversion concerns. These cases raise serious human-rights concerns relating to bodily autonomy, child protection, freedom of religion or belief, gender-based violence, and equal protection under law.

Several cases involved school-age girls, college students, women traveling alone, or women targeted in connection with communal intimidation, family vulnerability, or minority identity. Missing-person cases involving girls should not automatically be classified as sexual violence unless verified; however, in the Bangladeshi social context, such disappearances often create grave protection concerns because of the risk of sexual exploitation, trafficking, coercive marriage, forced conversion, or other gender-based harm.

HRCBM further notes that gender-based violence affecting minority women and girls is likely significantly underreported. Many families do not come forward due to social stigma, fear of retaliation, concerns over family honor, community pressure, economic vulnerability, and lack of confidence in law-enforcement response. In cases involving rape, attempted rape, abduction, or coercive marriage, victims and families may face secondary victimization, threats, or pressure to remain silent. As a result, the documented cases in this registry should be understood as the visible portion of a broader pattern of gender-based vulnerability affecting minority women and girls.

For this reason, the incidents documented in this section must be treated with particular urgency. They are not merely isolated criminal acts; they reflect overlapping vulnerabilities created by gender, minority religious identity, weak institutional protection, and entrenched social stigma.

*Table 6. Representative Cases of Gender-Based Violence, Abduction, Coercive Marriage, and Forced Conversion Concerns Affecting Minority Women and Girls, Referenced by HRCBM SL Number*

SL	Date	District	Incident Pattern	Summary
1	1 Jan 2026	Satkhira	Attempted sexual violence	Multiple Hindu girls reportedly targeted for assault and attempted rape.
6	3 Jan 2026	Cumilla	Sexual exploitation concern	Minor girl reportedly threatened with sale/exploitation and abused by family members.
41	14 Jan 2026	Khulna	Attempted rape	Hindu woman reportedly targeted by local elected official.
84	22 Jan 2026	Barguna	Rape threat and assault	Minority family allegedly beaten and threatened with rape.
99	26 Jan 2026	Joypurhat	Sexual harassment and attack	Hindu woman reportedly sexually harassed; later family home attacked.
103	27 Jan 2026	Noakhali	Sexual harassment	Hindu girls reportedly harassed at religious event.
143	5 Feb 2026	Manikganj	Coercive marriage / conversion concern	Hindu schoolgirl reportedly targeted through forged birth certificate and forced marriage attempt.
164	10 Feb 2026	Patuakhali	Kidnapping	Hindu college student reportedly abducted at gunpoint.
207	21 Feb 2026	Sylhet	Forced abduction	Hindu college student reportedly abducted while going to college.
213	22 Feb 2026	Gazipur / Dhaka route	Gang rape	Married minority woman reportedly gang-raped in public transport.

SL	Date	District	Incident Pattern	Summary
215	22 Feb 2026	Jashore	Abduction	Ninth-grade student reportedly lured or abducted near school.
219	23 Feb 2026	Bhola	Gang rape	Speech-impaired Hindu woman reportedly gang-raped after attending kirtan.



*Figure 30. SL 1 (video grab): Hindu girls and young women in Shyamnagar, Satkhira, are reportedly seen screaming and trying to hold a door shut as alleged attackers attempt to break in during a reported organized assault and attempted sexual violence incident. According to HRCBM documentation, police later arrived and rescued the victims, but no immediate arrests were reportedly made, intensifying fear, trauma, and insecurity among the affected families and the local Hindu community.*



*Figure 30. SL 41: The alleged accused, Union Parishad member Md. Alamgir Hossain, is reportedly seen after being caught by local residents in Maheshwaripur Union, Ward No. 04, Koyra, Khulna, and handed over to police following an alleged attempted rape of a Hindu woman. According to HRCBM documentation, the accused allegedly lured the victim under the pretext of providing a VGD card before attempting to sexually assault her. The incident sparked local outrage and protests, raising serious concerns over abuse of public position, exploitation of vulnerable minority women, and gender-based violence.*



*Figure 31. SL 84 (video grab): Alleged assault on members of a Hindu minority family in Rupdhan, Kakchira Union, Patharghata, Barguna. The image reportedly shows accused BNP leader Idris Hawlader attacking women from Moni Mondal's family after a land-related dispute, during which the family also alleged rape threats, physical violence, and intimidation. The incident raises serious concerns over violence against minority women, land-linked coercion, public intimidation, and the security of Hindu families in rural Bangladesh.*



Figure 32. SL 99: Members of a Hindu minority family in Hatshekha Hindu Para, Kalai, Joypurhat, stand beside their damaged home after a reported attack following sexual harassment of Ranjana Barman. According to HRCBM documentation, the victim was allegedly harassed and physically pulled by the accused while collecting cow-dung fuel near her home; later that night, the accused reportedly returned with 11–12 others, vandalized the family's house, damaged tin fencing and roofing, and issued threats. The incident reflects the heightened vulnerability of minority women, retaliatory violence against victims, and insecurity faced by Hindu families seeking justice.



Figure 33. SL 103: Alleged accused Md. Sohel was reportedly caught by members of the local Sanatani community and handed over to police after allegations of sexual harassment and obscene behavior toward Hindu girls during a Namyajna religious event at Ram Thakur Ashram in Majidee Bazar, Noakhali. The incident raises serious concerns over the safety of minority women and girls during religious gatherings, the need for preventive security at Hindu events, and timely legal action against gender-based harassment.



Figure 34. SL 43/143: The mother of a ninth-grade Hindu schoolgirl from Manikganj speaks at a press conference, alleging that her minor daughter was abducted, forcibly converted, and married using a forged birth certificate. According to the family, despite concerns over the girl's minor status, coercion, and safety, the court reportedly ordered the child to be returned to the alleged abductor/accused, raising grave concerns over child protection, freedom of religion or belief, gender-based coercion, and access to justice for minority families.

**Note: HRCBM has documented similar cases in which minority families allege that abducted or coerced minor girls were not adequately protected by law-enforcement or judicial processes. When courts fail to fully examine age, consent, coercion, forged documents, and religious conversion concerns, families perceive the justice system as enabling perpetrators rather than protecting vulnerable children. This pattern raises urgent concerns regarding child protection, minority women's rights, and equal access to justice.**

০৭/৪৬/১০২৫  
০১৩২৬২(০২৭) নম্বর ১৩/২০২-০৭/২৬  
৬৭৪৬/১  
১০/০২/২৬

বি.পি. ফরম নং-২৭  
বাংলাদেশ ফরম নং- ৫৩৫৬

প্রাথমিক তথ্য বিবরণী  
(প্রবিধান ২৪৩ দ্রষ্টব্য)

মৌজাদারি কার্যবিধি, ১৮৯৮ এর ধারা ১৫৪ অনুসারে থানায় প্রাপ্ত আমলযোগ্য অপরাধের প্রাথমিক তথ্য

প্রাথমিক তথ্যের নিচে আবশ্যিকভাবে অভিযোগকারী বা, প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে, তথ্য প্রদানকারীর স্বাক্ষর বা টিপসই থাকিতে হইবে এবং রেকর্ডিং অফিসার কর্তৃক প্রত্যয়িত হইতে হইবে।

প্রয়োজনে অতিরিক্ত পাতা সংযোজন করা যাইবে।

১। থানার নাম, মামলা নম্বর এবং অপরাধ সংশ্লিষ্ট আইন ও ধারা, ইত্যাদি:

থানা: বাউফল  
জেলা/মেট্রোপলিটন: পটুয়াখালী  
মামলা নম্বর: ১৬ তারিখ: ১০ ফেব্রুয়ারি, ২০২৬  
বাৎসরিক নম্বর: ৩৭  
আইনের নাম ও ধারা: ৭ নারী ও শিশু নির্যাতন দমন আইন, ২০০০;  
অপরাধের শিরোনাম: অপহরণ (নারী ও শিশু নির্যাতন দমন আইন)

২। অপরাধ সংঘটনের সময় ও আদালতে প্রেরণ সংক্রান্ত তথ্যাদি:

ঘটনার তারিখ ও সময়: ০৮ ফেব্রুয়ারি, ২০২৬, বিকাল অনুমান ০৪:০০ ঘটিকা হইতে, পর্যন্ত  
সংবাদ প্রাপ্তির তারিখ ও সময়: ১০ ফেব্রুয়ারি, ২০২৬, ১৫:৩০  
থানায় দাখিলকৃত/আদালতের মাধ্যমে প্রাপ্ত (আদালতের নাম ও স্বাক্ষর):  
থানা হইতে আদালতে প্রেরণের তারিখ: ১১ ফেব্রুয়ারি, ২০২৬  
বিলম্বের ব্যাখ্যা (যদি থাকে): বাদীর টাইপকৃত লিখিত অভিযোগ প্রাপ্ত হইয়া এজাহার কলাম পূরণপূর্বক মামলা রুজু করিলাম।  
খাতিয়ানে নোট করিলাম। বিলম্বের কারণ এজাহারে গর্তে উল্লেখ আছে।

৩। ঘটনাস্থল, এলাকার বিবরণ (জে.এল.নম্বর, ইউপি/ওয়ার্ড নম্বর/জিআইএস) এবং থানা হইতে ঘটনাস্থলের দূরত্ব ও ঠিকানা।

১। বাউফল থানাধীন কালিশুরী ইউপির কালিশুরী ৪নং ওয়ার্ড সাকিনে কালিশুরী বাজারের দক্ষিণ পার্শ্বে কালিশুরী সাইদুল আরিফি প্রাথমিক বিদ্যালয়ের সামনে রাস্তার উপর, কালিশুরি, কালিশুরি, বাউফল, পটুয়াখালী, বাংলাদেশ, ২০ কিমি, উত্তর দিক, জে.এল.নং-৪৩, বিট নং-৫, ইউপি নং-২(কালিশুরী)

৪। অভিযোগকারী বা, প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে, তথ্য প্রদানকারী:

অভিযোগকারী বা, প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে, তথ্য প্রদানকারীর নাম: (A3EUQ) নয়ন রানী দাস  
জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র নম্বর/জন্ম নিবন্ধন নম্বর/পাসপোর্ট নম্বর (যদি থাকে): 6888933139  
বয়স: ৩৮ লিঙ্গ: মহিলা পেশা (বিস্তারিত): গৃহকর্ত্রী  
পিতার নাম: স্বামী-ভজন চন্দ্র দাস  
মাতার নাম:  
ঠিকানা: স্থায়ী:- সোং-আলোকী চাঁদকাঠী, ৭নং ওয়ার্ড, ইউপি-ধুলিয়া, এ/পি-কালিশুরী বাজার), উপজেলা/থানা- বাউফল, জেলা-পটুয়াখালী, বাংলাদেশ  
ফোন, মোবাইল ও ফ্যাক্স নম্বর এবং ই-মেইল ঠিকানা (যদি থাকে): 01788413847

৫। অভিযোগকারী বা, প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে, তথ্য প্রদানকারী কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত অভিযুক্ত (গণ) এর বিবরণ (যদি তথ্য থাকে):

৩। অভিযুক্ত (গণ) এর নাম:

১। নাম: (G2LGS) মোঃ সোহান মোল্লা  
জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র নম্বর/জন্ম নিবন্ধন নম্বর/পাসপোর্ট নম্বর (যদি থাকে):  
বর্ণনা: গায়ের রং, উচ্চতা, চুল, গোঁফ, চোখ, সনাক্তকরণ চিহ্ন ইত্যাদি:  
বয়স: ২৩ লিঙ্গ: পুরুষ পেশা (বিস্তারিত):  
পিতার নাম: মোঃ সোহাগ মোল্লা  
মাতার নাম:  
ঠিকানা: স্থায়ী:- সোং-কালিশুরী, ৪নং ওয়ার্ড, উপজেলা/থানা- বাউফল, জেলা-পটুয়াখালী, বাংলাদেশ  
ফোন, মোবাইল ও ফ্যাক্স নম্বর এবং ই-মেইল ঠিকানা (যদি থাকে):

৬। ঘটনার সংক্ষিপ্ত বিবরণী: অপহরণ করার অপরাধ।

Figure 35. SL 164: General Diary filed at Bauphal Police Station regarding the alleged gunpoint abduction of Monisha, an eleventh-grade Hindu minority student from Kalishuri, Bauphal, Patuakhali. According to the family's complaint, the accused, Sohan Molla, allegedly abducted the student by threatening her with a pistol. The family reported filing a GD but expressed concern that authorities had not taken effective action, raising serious concerns over child protection, minority girls' safety, personal liberty, and access to justice.

বরাবর  
অফিসার-ইনচার্জ  
অভয়নগর থানা, যশোর।

বিষয়ঃ অভিযোগ।

জনাব,

যথাযথ সম্মান প্রদর্শন পূর্বক বিনীত নিবেদন এই যে, আমি সাধন বালা (৪০), পিতা-সখিচরণ বালা, সাং-গুয়াখোলা (প্রফেসরপাড়া), থানা-অভয়নগর, জেলা-যশোর থানায় হাজির হইয়া বিবাদী ১। সালমান গাজী @ রহিত (১৮), মোবাঃ ০১৭১৪-৮৫৬১৪১, পিতা-মোঃ রবিউল ইসলাম, মাতা-আসমা বেগম, সাং-গুয়াখোলা (প্রফেসরপাড়া), থানা-অভয়নগর, জেলা-যশোর এর বিরুদ্ধে এই মর্মে অভিযোগ দায়ের করিতেছি যে, বিবাদীর বাড়ী আমার বাড়ী পাশাপাশি। আমার মেয়ে প্রিয়ন্তি বালা (১৬), পিতা-সাধন বালা, মাতা-বিথিকা বালা, সাং-গুয়াখোলা (প্রফেসরপাড়া), থানা-অভয়নগর, জেলা-যশোর একজন শিক্ষার্থী। সে অভয়নগর থানাধীন নওয়াপাড়া পাইলট বালিকা বিদ্যালয়ের নবম শ্রেণীর ছাত্রী। আমার মেয়ে ইং-১৯/০২/২০২৬ তারিখ সকাল অনুমান ০৯.৩০ ঘটিকার সময় অভয়নগর থানাধীন গুয়াখোলা প্রফেসরপাড়া গ্রামস্থ আমার বসতবাড়ী থেকে তাহার শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানের উদ্দেশ্যে রওনা হইয়া ইং-১৯/০২/২০২৬ তারিখ সকাল অনুমান ০৯.৪৫ ঘটিকার সময় অভয়নগর থানাধীন নওয়াপাড়া গ্রামস্থ নওয়াপাড়া পাইলট বালিকা বিদ্যালয়ের সামনে পাকা রাস্তার উপর পৌঁছাইলে উক্ত স্থানে ওৎপেতে থাকা বিবাদী সালমান গাজী @ রহিত পূর্ব-পরিকল্পিত ভাবে আমার মেয়ে প্রিয়ন্তি বালা (১৬) কে ফুসলিয়ে নানা প্রলোভন দেখাইয়া অজ্ঞাত স্থানে নিয়া চলিয়া যায়। পরবর্তীতে আমার মেয়ে যথাসময়ে বাড়ীতে না পৌঁছাইলে আমার স্ত্রী বিথিকা বালা আমাকে জানাইলে আমি তৎক্ষণাত বাড়ীতে যাইয়া আমার মেয়েকে সম্ভব সকল স্থানে খোঁজাখুঁজি করি। খোঁজাখুঁজির এক পর্যায়ে ঘটনার বিষয় নিকট আদ্বীয় স্বজন সহ স্থানীয় গন্যমান্য ব্যক্তিদেরকে জানাই। অদ্যাবদি সঠিক কোন সন্ধান পাই নাই। খোঁজাখুঁজি অব্যাহত আছে। খোঁজাখুঁজি করিয়া কোথাও কোন সন্ধান না পাইয়া নিকট আদ্বীয় স্বজন সহ স্থানীয় গন্যমান্য ব্যক্তিদের সহিত আলাপ-আলোচনা করিয়া থানায় আসিয়া অভিযোগ দায়ের করিতে বিলম্ব হইল।

শারীরিক বর্ণনা

নাম-প্রিয়ন্তি বালা (১৬), গায়ের রং-ফর্সা, মুখমন্ডল-লম্বাটে, মাথার চুল-কালো বড় অনুমান অর্ধ পিঠ বরাবর, উচ্চতা-৫ ফুট ২ ইঞ্চি, দৈহিক গঠন-হালকা পাতলা।

অতএব, মহোদয় উক্ত বিষয়টি আইনগত ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণে জনাবের একান্ত মর্জি হয়।

বিনীত

(সাধন বালা)  
মোবাঃ ০১৭১০-৮২১৬৬৫

Figure 36. SL 215: General Diary filed at Abhaynagar Police Station, Jashore, regarding the alleged abduction of Priyanti Bala, a 16-year-old ninth-grade Hindu minority student. According to the family's complaint, Priyanti left home for school on 19 February 2026 and was allegedly lured away near Nowapara Pilot Girls' School by Salman Gazi Rohit. The family reported that she remained missing despite searches by relatives and local community members, raising serious concerns over child protection, minority girls' safety, freedom of movement, and timely law-enforcement response.



*Figure 37. SL 219: A speech-impaired Hindu woman receives medical treatment after an alleged gang rape in Tazumuddin, Bhola. According to HRCBM documentation, the survivor had gone to attend a kirtan near Anil Sadhu's temple and was reportedly lured into an auto-rickshaw by three local men before being taken to a nearby betel-nut grove, drugged, assaulted, and left severely injured. Her identity has been deliberately obscured to protect her dignity, privacy, and safety. The incident raises grave concerns over sexual violence against minority women, disability-related vulnerability, religious-event safety, and the urgent need for survivor protection and accountability.*

## 5.4 Missing Persons, Suspicious Deaths, and Disappearance-to-Death Patterns

The registry contains multiple incidents where minority individuals went missing and later remained untraced, or where bodies were recovered under suspicious circumstances. These cases include elderly persons, schoolgirls, students, workers, women, and youth.

This pattern creates severe fear because disappearance often leaves families without truth, protection, or closure. In some cases, bodies were later recovered from rivers, ponds, roadsides, rooms, or other locations under unexplained circumstances. Such incidents require urgent forensic transparency and independent investigation.

Table 7. Representative Cases of Missing Persons, Suspicious Deaths, and Disappearance-to-Death Patterns, Referenced by HRCBM SL Number

SL	Date	District	Incident Pattern	Summary
3	2 Jan 2026	Dhaka	Elderly missing person	Dinesh Chandra Das went missing after leaving home in Lakshmibazar.
32	9 Jan 2026	Dhaka	Missing minor	Turya Pal, age 14, went missing after leaving for school.
44	14 Jan 2026	Cumilla	Missing woman	Tipa Rani Sen disappeared after leaving for market.
68	19 Jan 2026	Cox's Bazar	Suspicious hanging death	Rohid Barua's body found hanging; family alleged murder.
75	21 Jan 2026	Munshiganj	Body recovered from river	Joy Chakraborty's body recovered floating in Meghna River area.
83	22 Jan 2026	Bagerhat	Missing woman	Sagarika Bachhar missing after leaving home.
89	24 Jan 2026	Dhaka	Suspicious death	Subir Biswas recovered severely injured/dead from a rooftop in Badda.
114	31 Jan 2026	Moulvibazar	Suspicious death	Tea worker Mongla Munda found dead in forest area; family alleged killing.
121	31 Jan 2026	Chattogram	University student death	Upama Dutta found hanging in university dormitory.
122	31 Jan 2026	Jhenaidah	Student hanging death	Ananya Ganguly found hanging after returning home from Dhaka.
127	2 Feb 2026	Dhaka	Body recovered after missing	Bijoy's body found in generator room after four days missing.
146	6 Feb 2026	Panchagarh	Body recovered after missing	College student Dhatri Rani found dead in pond after missing.
154	8 Feb 2026	Satkhira	Suspicious student death	Hindu university student found hanging.
216	22 Feb 2026	Kishoreganj	Missing teacher	Schoolteacher Jewel Sutradhar disappeared while returning from work.



Figure 38. Composite images of representative missing-person cases affecting minority communities.

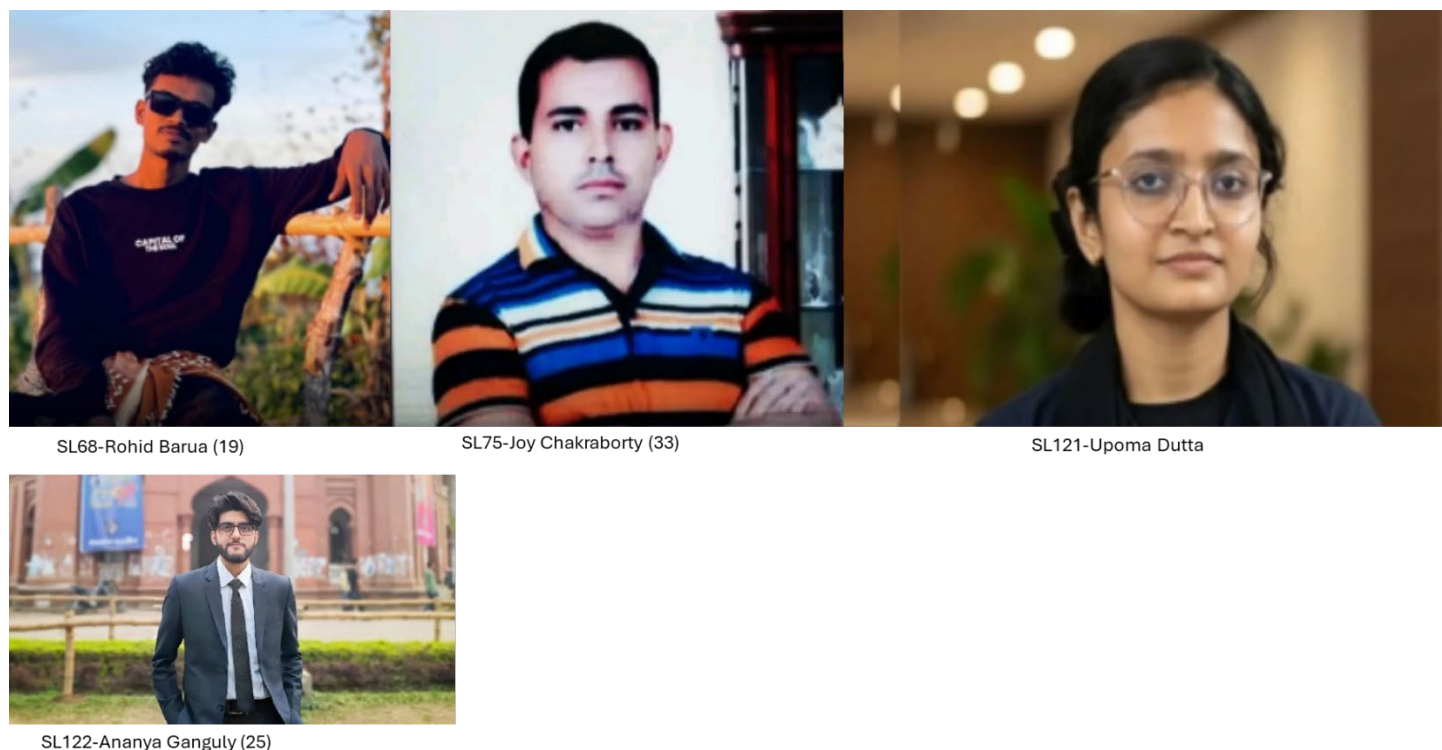
**Note:** The images document selected cases of minority individuals who went missing during the reporting period, including children, students, women, and elderly persons. HRCBM has observed a deeply troubling pattern in which missing-person cases involving minorities often generate serious fears of abduction, sexual exploitation, coercive marriage, trafficking, or later recovery of bodies under suspicious circumstances. These cases reflect not only individual tragedy, but also the profound insecurity, uncertainty, and fear faced by minority families when loved ones disappear and effective protection or timely recovery is not ensured.



Figure 39. SL 127 and SL 146: Bijoy (19) and Dhatri Rani (20) — Two young minority victims found dead after going missing. Bijoy's body was reportedly recovered from a generator room inside a factory in Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka, after he had been missing for several days. Dhatri Rani, a Hindu college student from Panchagarh, reportedly went missing while on her way to private tutoring and was found dead in a pond three days later. These cases illustrate the recurring disappearance-to-death pattern documented by HRCBM, raising grave concerns over youth safety, minority vulnerability, forensic transparency, and timely law-enforcement response.

**Note:** HRCBM has received increasing reports of minority individuals going missing without trace, with some later found dead under suspicious circumstances. Across Bangladesh in recent years, bodies have reportedly been recovered from rivers, ponds, fields, roadsides, forests, industrial sites, and other locations—sometimes decomposed, disfigured, or

*difficult to identify. While each case requires independent forensic investigation, the recurrence of disappearance followed by unexplained death raises urgent concerns regarding minority safety, missing-person response, forensic capacity, and accountability.*



*Figure 40. Suspicious deaths of young minority students and professionals — HRCBM Section 5.4.*

*Note: Composite images of young minority victims whose deaths were documented as suspicious or unexplained after disappearance, campus-related incidents, or recovery of bodies under troubling circumstances. Several cases involved university or college students, including young people whose families and communities continue to seek truth, forensic clarity, and accountability. These cases reflect a deeply concerning pattern in which missing or vulnerable minority youth are later found dead under circumstances requiring prompt, independent, and transparent investigation.*

## 5.5 Targeted Killings and Lethal Attacks

The registry documents multiple killings and suspicious deaths involving sharp weapons, burning, poisoning allegations, drowning after pursuit, bodies recovered from rivers or ponds, and targeted attacks against minority business owners, workers, women, students, and Indigenous persons.

These incidents should be presented not only as isolated murders but as part of a broader environment in which minority citizens face elevated vulnerability and where investigations often remain incomplete or unclear.

*Table 8. Representative Cases of Targeted Killings, Suspicious Lethal Attacks, and Severe Gender-Based Murder, Referenced by HRCBM SL Number.*

<b>SL</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Incident Pattern</b>	<b>Summary</b>
18	6 Jan 2026	Narsingdi	Murder	Hindu grocer Moni Chakraborty hacked after closing shop.
28	8 Jan 2026	Chattogram	Rape and murder	Minor girl Shrabanti Ghosh reportedly raped and killed.
30	9 Jan 2026	Sunamganj	Murder allegation	Joy Mahapatra reportedly killed by poisoning.
36	12 Jan 2026	Feni	Murder	Samir Kumar Das found dead with sharp weapon injuries.
50	16 Jan 2026	Rajbari	Vehicle killing	Ripon Saha reportedly run over after demanding fuel payment.
59	17 Jan 2026	Gazipur	Killing	Businessman Liton Chandra Ghosh killed after intervening in assault.
76	21 Jan 2026	Khulna	Murder	Elderly widow Srilakha Sana hacked to death at home.
92	24 Jan 2026	Narsingdi	Burned alive	Chanchal Chandra Bhowmik reportedly burned while sleeping in workshop.
95	25 Jan 2026	Khagrachhari	Indigenous death after attack	Bimal Tripura died after land-related attack on Indigenous community.
98	26 Jan 2026	Kurigram	Land-dispute death	Elderly Madhu Chandra Shil died after assault/altercation over land.
161	10 Feb 2026	Mymensingh	Murder	Rice trader Susen Chandra Sarkar killed in shop attack.
169	11 Feb 2026	Moulvibazar	Throat-slitting murder	Tea worker Ratan Shubhakar found with throat injury.
182	13 Feb 2026	Gaibandha	Murder	Amitabh Chandra Sujon reportedly attacked with axe and died.
196	17 Feb 2026	Bogura	Fatal stabbing	Sunil Banshfor died after stabbing.



SL18-Moni Chakraborty



SL28-Shrabanti Ghosh [victim of gang rape who was subsequently murdered]



SL30-Joy Mahapatra



SL36 Samir Kumar Das



SL59-Liton Chandra Ghosh



SL92-Chanchal Chandra Bhowmik



SL182-Amitabh Chandra Sujan

Figure 41. Portraits of victims documented in targeted killings and lethal attacks — HRCBM Section 5.5.

Note: Composite portraits of minority victims documented by HRCBM as targeted killings, suspicious lethal attacks, or severe identity-linked violence during the reporting period. The panel includes victims allegedly murdered through direct physical attack, sharp-weapon assault, burning, poisoning, or other violent circumstances. It also includes SL 28, a minor girl whose case was documented as gang rape followed by murder, reflecting the extreme vulnerability of minority girls to gender-based and lethal violence. HRCBM has intentionally used dignified portrait images rather than graphic post-mortem photographs to preserve

victim dignity, reduce viewer distress, and present the cases in a respectful documentation format.

## 5.6 Robbery, Extortion, and Attacks on Minority Livelihoods

Another recurring pattern involves robbery, extortion, snatching, shop attacks, theft from businesses, attacks on gold traders, and destruction of livelihood assets. These incidents show that minority insecurity is not limited to bodily harm; it also includes economic destabilization.

Minority shopkeepers, gold traders, farmers, teachers, transport workers, and small business owners appear repeatedly in the registry.

Table 9. Representative Cases of Robbery, Extortion, and Attacks on Minority Livelihoods, Referenced by HRCBM SL Number.

SL	Date	District	Incident Pattern	Summary
5	2 Jan 2026	Chattogram	Armed robbery	Hindu family robbed at knifepoint; gold, cash, and phones looted.
10	4 Jan 2026	Lakshmipur	Gold snatching	Gold trader Shuvo Poddar reportedly robbed of gold ornaments.
16	5 Jan 2026	Chattogram	Large gold robbery	Hindu gold businessman reportedly robbed of approximately 350 bhoris gold.
17	5 Jan 2026	Khulna	Business intimidation	Hindu-owned jewelry shop reportedly threatened by armed group.
20	6 Jan 2026	Narayanganj	Wedding-party robbery	Hindu wedding party reportedly robbed at weapon point.
33	10 Jan 2026	Cox's Bazar	Armed robbery	Hindu family home and shops reportedly looted.
47	15 Jan 2026	Magura	Household robbery	Hindu family robbed of gold and cash.
51	16 Jan 2026	Madaripur	Cash snatching	Bank DSR worker reportedly robbed of Tk 24 lakh.
72	20 Jan 2026	Narayanganj	Armed dacoity	Three houses reportedly robbed in same night.
85	23 Jan 2026	Bogura	Armed dacoity	Hindu dairy trader's family reportedly beaten and robbed.
112	30 Jan 2026	Pabna	Extortion and attack	Family reportedly targeted for Tk 10 lakh extortion.

SL	Date	District	Incident Pattern	Summary
184	14 Feb 2026	Thakurgaon	Organized theft	Teacher's home reportedly looted using incapacitating spray.
203	18 Feb 2026	Khulna	Armed attack on jewelers	Jewelry owner and son attacked with sharp weapons.
209	22 Feb 2026	Patuakhali	Armed dacoity	Minority family reportedly tied up and robbed.



Figure 42. SL 5: Robbers reportedly broke into a Hindu minority family's home and looted 15 bhoris of gold, Tk 12,000, and five mobile phones.



*Figure 43. SL 17 (video grab): A crowd gathers outside Shyama Diamond, a minority-owned jewelry business in Khulna, after a group of 10–15 armed individuals reportedly entered the shop searching for the owner and created panic. The shop's emergency alarm was triggered for the first time in its 67-year history, forcing the owners to close the premises and alert police. The incident reflects the vulnerability of minority-owned businesses to armed intimidation, livelihood insecurity, and economic coercion.*



Figure 44. SL 33: Armed robbery targeting a Hindu family and minority-owned shops in Nathpara, Harbang Union, Chakaria, Cox’s Bazar. According to HRCBM documentation, a group of armed robbers reportedly entered the home of Sagar Dhar before dawn, assaulted family members, seized keys, and looted approximately 15 bhoris of gold ornaments and Tk 2.5 lakh in cash. In the same incident, two local grocery shops owned by Mintu Nath and Bijoy Nath were also reportedly broken into and looted, including 25 sacks of rice and other goods. The incident reflects serious concerns over minority household security, livelihood vulnerability, armed intimidation, and protection failures in minority-populated areas.

## 5.7 Political, Electoral, and Institutional Intimidation

The registry also contains incidents involving election-linked threats, political intimidation, pressure on minority voters or candidates, institutional harassment, false-case allegations, denial of religious events, prison deaths, and security-force related concerns.

These incidents are important because they show that minority vulnerability is not limited to street violence. It can also appear through institutional pressure, administrative action, political retaliation, and weak protection.

Table 10. Representative Cases of Political, Electoral, and Institutional Intimidation Affecting Minority Communities, Referenced by HRCBM SL Number.

SL	Date	District	Incident Pattern	Summary
13	5 Jan 2026	Kurigram	Administrative intimidation	Hindu woman official faced intense mobilization and removal demands.
45	14 Jan 2026	Dhaka/Savar	Religious-rights interference	Saraswati Puja banners reportedly removed at Jahangirnagar University.

SL	Date	District	Incident Pattern	Summary
56	16 Jan 2026	Pabna	Custodial death concern	Cultural figure Prolay Chaki died while in custody.
58	17 Jan 2026	Kishoreganj	Religious event obstruction	Historic Chouddomadal fair reportedly denied permission.
61	18 Jan 2026	Rangamati	Political threat	Minority independent candidate Pahel Chakma received death threat.
73	20 Jan 2026	Bogura	Eviction without notice	Sweeper colony reportedly targeted for eviction without legal notice.
88	24 Jan 2026	Chattogram	False case / forced detention	Minority businessman reportedly detained under questionable case; CCTV removed.
97	26 Jan 2026	Rangpur	Threat to withdraw case	Family of prior killing victim reportedly threatened to withdraw case.
100	26 Jan 2026	Dhaka	Armed political/economic intimidation	Bank director's residence threatened with gunfire and warning note.
104	27 Jan 2026	Naogaon	Police/procedural abuse allegation	Court summons allegedly suppressed leading to arrest of minority persons.
124	31 Jan 2026	Kishoreganj	Security-force raid	Army reportedly raided Hindu-majority villages without disclosed legal basis.
133	4 Feb 2026	Khulna	Institutional humiliation	Students allegedly had heads shaved after resisting political pressure.
137	4 Feb 2026	Jamalpur	Religious-insult allegation	Student expelled/suspended over religious insult allegation.
175	12 Feb 2026	Gopalganj	Election violence	Supporters of Hindu independent candidate reportedly attacked.
181	13 Feb 2026	Barishal	Election-related intimidation	Minority voters/families allegedly threatened before election.
189	14 Feb 2026	Satkhira	Political intimidation	Minority family reportedly pressured over political activity.
198	17 Feb 2026	Khulna	Post-election violence	Hindu home and shop reportedly threatened/attacked after election.
208	21 Feb 2026	Khulna	Extortion and political threat	Teacher reportedly threatened in youth-political context.

## 5.8 Indigenous and Ethnic Minority Vulnerability

The registry also includes incidents affecting Indigenous and ethnic minority communities, particularly in the Chattogram Hill Tracts and related regions. These incidents involve land-related attacks, physical assault, threats, political intimidation, and community insecurity.

This pattern should be treated separately because Indigenous communities often face a layered vulnerability involving ethnic identity, land rights, militarization, displacement pressure, and weak legal protection.

*Table 11. Representative Cases of Indigenous and Ethnic Minority Vulnerability, Referenced by HRCBM SL Number.*

SL	Date	District	Community / Victim	Summary
46	15 Jan 2026	Khagrachhari	Pahari / Indigenous community	Planned attack over land dispute; several injured.
60	18 Jan 2026	Bandarban	Mro Indigenous community	Attack on Mro villagers in Janalipara; at least 10 injured.
61	18 Jan 2026	Rangamati	Chakma political candidate	Minority independent candidate Pahel Chakma reportedly threatened.
78	22 Jan 2026	Chattogram	Tripura individual	Gegenar Tripura reportedly chained and tortured for three days.
95	25 Jan 2026	Khagrachhari	Tripura / Indigenous victim	Bimal Tripura died after attack linked to land dispossession.
139	5 Feb 2026	Habiganj	Tea garden workers	Tea garden guards from minority community attacked and bound during theft.
169	11 Feb 2026	Moulvibazar	Tea garden worker	Ratan Shubhakar found with throat-slitting injuries in tea garden area.

**Ethical Note:** Images are included for human-rights documentation and accountability purposes. Care should be taken to avoid unnecessary graphic exposure while preserving the evidentiary value of the documentation.



Figure 42. SL 46: Wounded Indigenous community members and subsequent protests in Khagrachhari following a reported land-related attack against the local minority community.

**Note:** The image series documents wounded Indigenous community members and later protest scenes following a reported attack connected to a land dispute in Khagrachhari. The incident illustrates the layered vulnerability of Indigenous minorities, including land insecurity, physical violence, community intimidation, and demands for accountability.



Figure 43. SL 60: Composite images showing wounded Mro Indigenous community members and subsequent protests following a reported attack in Janalipara, Bandarban. According to HRCBM documentation, members of the Mro community were attacked, leaving several people injured and generating widespread fear, anger, and demands for justice. The incident reflects the layered vulnerability of Indigenous minorities in the Chattogram Hill Tracts, where land insecurity, ethnic identity, physical violence, and weak protection mechanisms converge to threaten community safety and dignity.

## 6.0 Legal Assessment

Bangladesh’s domestic legal framework imposes clear obligations on the state to protect life, liberty, equality before law, religious freedom, property rights, and personal security. The Constitution of Bangladesh guarantees equality before law and equal protection of law under Article 27, prohibits discrimination on grounds including religion and sex under Article 28, and protects life and personal liberty under Article 32. These constitutional guarantees are directly implicated where minority individuals, families, women and girls, religious institutions, and Indigenous communities face violence, intimidation, land grabbing, sexual violence, abduction, or denial of effective protection.

Under Bangladesh’s Code of Criminal Procedure, information relating to the commission of a cognizable offence must be recorded by the officer-in-charge of a police station, and

cognizable offences require prompt law-enforcement action. The incidents documented in this report raise serious concerns regarding whether minority victims consistently receive timely registration of complaints, effective investigation, protection from retaliation, and equal access to justice.

The evidence documented in this report suggests recurring protection failures across multiple categories of violations, including killings and suspicious deaths, missing-person cases, sexual violence, abduction, temple vandalism, land grabbing, arson, robbery, extortion, political intimidation, and attacks on Indigenous communities. While the available data do not uniformly contain complete FIR, arrest, charge-sheet, or prosecution-status information for every case, the qualitative patterns reveal repeated concerns regarding delayed response, weak follow-up, intimidation of victims or families, and lack of visible accountability.

These failures are not merely administrative. Where minority communities repeatedly report violence, threats, land dispossession, sexual abuse, religious attacks, and intimidation without timely and effective remedy, the result is a broader protection deficit. Such a deficit undermines public confidence in the rule of law and contributes to a climate in which perpetrators may perceive that crimes against minority communities can be committed with limited consequence.

## 6.1 International Human-Rights Framework

Bangladesh is bound by multiple international human-rights obligations relevant to the incidents documented in this report, including obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. These frameworks require states to protect life and security, ensure equality before law, prevent discrimination, protect women and children from violence, and provide effective remedies for rights violations.

The documented incidents raise concerns across several core human-rights domains:

- the right to life and personal security;
- freedom from torture, cruel treatment, and gender-based violence;
- freedom of religion or belief;
- equality before law and non-discrimination;

- protection of children from abduction, coercion, exploitation, and forced or child marriage;
- protection of women and girls from sexual violence and intimidation;
- property and livelihood security;
- protection of Indigenous and ethnic minority communities;
- and the right to an effective remedy.

The recurring nature of these violations indicates failures across the state's due-diligence responsibilities: prevention, protection, investigation, prosecution, and remedy. Where authorities fail to prevent foreseeable harm, respond promptly to credible threats, investigate serious violations, protect victims and witnesses, or prosecute perpetrators, the state risks breaching both domestic and international obligations.

## 6.2 Atrocity Risk & Legal Thresholds

This report does not make a final legal determination of genocide, crimes against humanity, or other international crimes. Such determinations require competent judicial or international investigative processes. However, the documented patterns contain serious early-warning indicators relevant to atrocity-prevention analysis.

These indicators include:

- identity-based targeting of religious, ethnic, and Indigenous minorities;
- repeated attacks on religious institutions and sacred symbols;
- sexual and gender-based violence affecting minority women and girls;
- abduction, coercive marriage, and forced conversion concerns;
- recurring land grabbing and property dispossession;
- missing-person and suspicious-death patterns;
- intimidation of victims, families, and minority communities;
- weak institutional response and perceived impunity;
- and widespread fear affecting community life, religious practice, education, livelihood, and mobility.

These patterns should be treated as urgent prevention signals. Even where individual incidents may be investigated as ordinary crimes, their repetition across districts and divisions indicates a broader environment of vulnerability that requires national and international attention.

### 6.3 State Responsibility: Duty to Protect & Impunity

The state has a duty to protect all citizens equally, including minorities who face heightened vulnerability due to religion, ethnicity, gender, disability, social status, or geographic isolation. When minority communities repeatedly face violence, sexual abuse, land grabbing, religious desecration, intimidation, and unresolved disappearances, the state's responsibility is not limited to responding after harm occurs. It must also prevent foreseeable violations, protect victims and witnesses, ensure impartial investigation, and hold perpetrators accountable.

Impunity becomes structural when victims and families repeatedly experience delayed response, weak investigation, lack of arrests, pressure to compromise, threats after filing complaints, or prolonged judicial inaction. HRCBM's long-term experience, including litigation and advocacy since 2006, indicates that minority-related cases often face serious barriers in domestic accountability channels. This report therefore treats impunity not only as a case-level concern, but as a structural driver of recurring persecution.

The incidents documented in this report require more than routine case processing. They require transparent investigation, judicial oversight, victim and witness protection, independent monitoring, and public accountability mechanisms capable of restoring confidence among minority communities.

## 7.0 Recommendations

The findings of this report demonstrate a sustained pattern of violence, religious persecution, sexual and gender-based vulnerability, land dispossession, intimidation, suspicious deaths, and institutional protection failures affecting minority communities in Bangladesh. These conditions are not adequately addressed through isolated case-by-case response alone. They require coordinated legal, administrative, judicial, and international engagement.

Accordingly, the following recommendations are structured by responsible stakeholder groups to ensure clarity of obligation, accountability of implementation, and measurable impact. They are designed to strengthen the rule of law, restore public trust in state institutions, protect vulnerable populations, and prevent the recurrence of violence. Each set of recommendations reflects the urgency of the documented human-rights violations and the necessity of immediate, concrete action.

## 7.1 Government of Bangladesh

- Establish an independent national inquiry into documented violence and persecution affecting religious, ethnic, and Indigenous minorities during the January–April 2026 reporting period.
- Create a centralized minority-rights incident monitoring mechanism covering killings, suspicious deaths, sexual violence, abduction, temple attacks, land grabbing, arson, looting, extortion, and intimidation.
- Ensure immediate protection for high-risk victims, witnesses, families, religious institutions, and minority-populated localities.
- Establish special administrative monitoring for minority land and property disputes, particularly where there are allegations of forged documents, intimidation, forced occupation, or court-order violations.
- Provide survivor-centered medical, psychosocial, legal, and rehabilitation support for victims of sexual violence, abduction, and coercive marriage or conversion-related cases.
- Ensure protection of temples, cremation grounds, religious festivals, and sacred community properties.
- Create district-level early-warning mechanisms for rumor-driven violence, election-related intimidation, and attacks on minority communities.

## 7.2 Police & Prosecutorial Services

- Ensure prompt registration of complaints and FIRs in cognizable offences involving minority victims.
- Establish specialized investigation teams for minority-related crimes, including sexual violence, abduction, land grabbing, temple attacks, and suspicious deaths.
- Require time-bound investigation plans for serious cases and periodic updates to victims' families.
- Create victim and witness protection protocols in cases involving threats, land disputes, sexual violence, political intimidation, or communal pressure.
- Track arrest status, charge-sheet submission, prosecution progress, and case outcomes through a centralized database.
- Ensure gender-sensitive and child-sensitive handling of cases involving minor girls, sexual violence survivors, missing students, and persons with disabilities.
- Preserve CCTV footage, digital evidence, forensic records, medical evidence, and witness statements in accordance with evidentiary standards.

## 7.3 Judiciary & NHRC

- Prioritize judicial review of cases involving minority victims, especially where allegations include sexual violence, abduction, land grabbing, suspicious death, temple attack, or official inaction.

- Establish judicial monitoring for cases where court orders are allegedly ignored in land-related disputes.
- Strengthen NHRC oversight of minority-related violence and publish periodic public updates on case status, institutional response, and accountability outcomes.
- Ensure child-protection review in cases involving alleged abduction, forged birth certificates, coercive marriage, or conversion-related concerns.
- Create a public accountability dashboard tracking serious minority-related cases, including FIR status, investigation progress, arrests, charge sheets, and trial outcomes.

#### 7.4 International Actors (UN, EU, US State, UK FCDO, Commonwealth and Diplomatic Missions)

- Engage the Government of Bangladesh through formal diplomatic channels regarding the documented pattern of minority persecution and institutional response failures.
- Request transparent investigation and public reporting on serious cases, including sexual violence, abduction, suspicious deaths, religious attacks, land grabbing, and Indigenous community attacks.
- Support independent forensic, legal, and human-rights documentation capacity.
- Encourage Bangladesh to strengthen victim and witness protection, child-protection mechanisms, and minority land-rights safeguards.
- Support civil-society documentation, legal aid, survivor support, and community early-warning systems.
- Consider targeted accountability measures, conditionality, or public reporting where credible evidence demonstrates persistent impunity, official negligence, or failure to protect vulnerable communities.

#### 7.5 Media & Digital Platforms

- Establish rapid-response mechanisms to counter rumor-driven violence, hate speech, and incitement targeting minority communities.
- Strengthen platform moderation of content that incites religious hatred, sexualized threats, forced displacement, or mob violence.
- Support responsible reporting standards that protect survivors of sexual violence, minors, and vulnerable witnesses.
- Develop partnerships with civil-society monitors to identify disinformation campaigns and prevent escalation into real-world violence.

## 7.6 Transitional Justice & Accountability Pathway (HRCBM Framework)

To ensure durable prevention and non-recurrence, HRCBM proposes a transitional justice and accountability framework as a civil-society resource aligned with international standards and designed to complement criminal justice processes. The framework is victim-centered and seeks to address both individual perpetrators and the systemic conditions—impunity, investigative failure, institutional discrimination, land insecurity, gender-based vulnerability, and religious persecution—that allow violence against minorities to persist.

HRCBM’s framework is structured around five mutually reinforcing pillars:

1. **Truth and Documentation**

Standardized case registries, evidence preservation, victim testimony, photographic records, medical documentation, police records, and digital archiving.

2. **Accountability**

Independent investigations, prosecutorial capacity-building, judicial monitoring, forensic review, and witness protection.

3. **Reparations and Rehabilitation**

Medical care, psychosocial support, livelihood stabilization, legal aid, relocation assistance where necessary, and restoration of damaged religious or community property.

4. **Institutional Reform**

Mandatory complaint registration, timely investigation, oversight of law-enforcement conduct, specialized minority-protection units, and safeguards against political or local influence.

5. **Guarantees of Non-Recurrence**

Early-warning systems, protection protocols for religious festivals and minority areas, land-dispute monitoring, anti-hate-speech response, civic education, and public reporting.

HRCBM invites the Government of Bangladesh, the National Human Rights Commission, international partners, diplomatic missions, and UN mechanisms to engage with this framework through a transparent, time-bound implementation roadmap with measurable indicators, independent monitoring, and periodic public reporting.

## 8.0 HRCBM Actions & Contact Channel

The Human Rights Congress for Bangladesh Minorities (HRCBM) operates as a documentation, legal advocacy, and accountability-focused civil society organization. HRCBM does not provide direct emergency responses to victims. Its core functions include independent documentation of human-rights violations, legal case development, strategic

advocacy, and coordination with partner organizations that deliver humanitarian and financial assistance.

## 8.1 Actions Undertaken by HRCBM

Since the onset of the documented violence, HRCBM has undertaken the following actions:

- **Case Documentation & Evidence Preservation**  
Collection of victim testimonies, photographic evidence, medical records, police documentation, and witness statements; development of standardized case files and master registries.
- **Legal Assistance & Case Support**  
Support to victims' families in filing FIRs, monitoring investigations, pursuing judicial remedies, and engaging oversight bodies including the NHRC and relevant UN mechanisms.
- **Advocacy & International Engagement**  
Submissions to UN Special Procedures, diplomatic missions, and international human-rights institutions; ongoing briefings to media and civil society networks.
- **Referral & Partner Coordination**  
HRCBM refers victims and families to vetted humanitarian and social-service partner organizations for financial assistance, psychosocial support, medical aid, and emergency relief.
- **Monitoring of Investigations & Accountability**  
Tracking of police responses, prosecutorial progress, and judicial proceedings; publication of periodic accountability assessments.

## 8.2 Victim Support Pathway

HRCBM's victim-support model is based on **legal empowerment and referral coordination**:

1. **Intake & Documentation** – secure case intake and evidence verification
2. **Legal Pathway Activation** – FIR filing support, court engagement, oversight mechanisms
3. **Partner Referral** – connection to humanitarian partners for financial, medical, and psychosocial assistance
4. **Follow-up & Monitoring** – continuous case tracking and protection advocacy

### 8.3 Safe Reporting & Witness Contact Channel

HRCBM maintains secure reporting channels for victims, families, witnesses, and community observers:

- Confidential case intake (encrypted digital submission)
- Secure document transmission
- Witness protection coordination with partner legal organizations
- Periodic status updates to complainants

All sensitive information is handled under strict confidentiality and data-protection protocols.