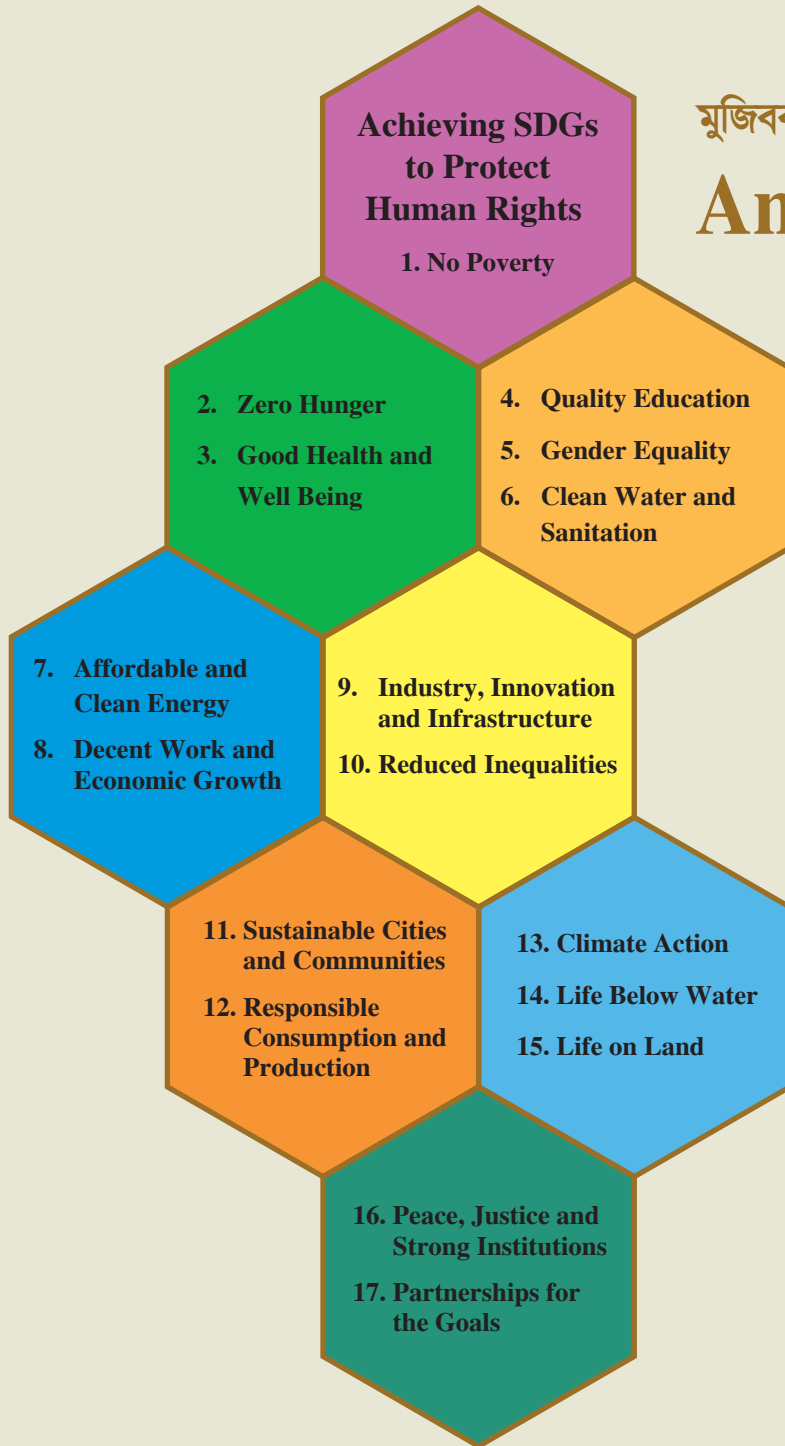




মুজিববর্ষের অঙ্গীকার, সুরক্ষিত হবে মানবাধিকার

Annual Report 2021



**National Human Rights Commission
Bangladesh**



National Human Rights Commission

Annual Report 2021

This publication is the annual report of the Commission on its activities from January 1st to December 31st of 2021. The Commission submits this report to the Honorable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in compliance with Article 22 (01) of the National Human Rights Commission Act, 2009.

National Human Rights Commission

Annual Report 2021

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Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman



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Foreword from the Chairman

We know that living with dignity by birth is the main theme of UDHR 1948. Human Rights is eternal and universal which is not confined by any border of any country. 30 articles of UDHR ensure that a human being has equal rights regardless of religion, caste, gender, age, ethnicity, disability and place of birth. Rights and responsibility are complementary to each other.

The Father of our nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman fought for human rights throughout his life. The preamble of our constitution states that the fundamental aim of the State is to be realized through the democratic process of a socialist society, free from exploitation- a society in which rule of law, fundamental human rights and freedom, equality and justice, political, economic and social, will be secured for all citizens. 3rd Chapter of our constitution clearly explains fundamental human rights which is similar to the UDHR.

NHRC's mission is to create human rights culture around the country. So, Commission pays attention to wherever human rights violations occur. The Commission has 12 thematic committees for resolving humane crises. During Covid crisis Commission continued its activities through WhatsApp group and e-File management on several human rights violation cases. It sent recommendations to the government and actions were taken accordingly.

We have organized essay competition throughout the country to create awareness on human rights among students, parents and teachers from root to center. This year the essay competition titled "Liberation War, Independence and Humane Values" in which around 1.5 lac students of class 09-12 participated. 100 winners are being provided with 2000 BDT monthly as human rights scholarship. Besides, online human rights course is being launched for encouraging children for practicing human rights

from childhood. In addition, this year NHRCB handed over draft Sexual Harassment Prevention and Protection Act to hon'ble Minister of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.

NHRCB forms fact-finding committees and takes strong actions on human rights violation cases. The Commission is working tirelessly for creating awareness on human rights and identifying causes of human rights violations. It is also doing research in this regard. We regularly follow up with the concerned ministries so that they send back reports as soon as possible as asked by the Commission and we are getting reports more quickly than before.

NHRC has played effective role by doing inquiry on communal attack in Pirganj, Rangpur, ensuring justice for Abiron, freeing Salam Dhali from jail, filing case on removing good kidney, giving connection of water and electricity line of a victim whose water and electricity line were disconnected due to conflict between tenant and house owner. Recently, the Commission has amended NHRC Act 2009 and drafted complaint management Rules and sent them to the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs. We are working for protecting human rights for women, children, persons with disabilities, Dalit, Hijra, ethnic minorities and others through 12 thematic committees. We are maintaining communication with

international forums such as APF, GANHRI, OHCHR, CFNHRI and also urged the international community to come forward to resolve the Rohingya Crisis.

Recently, Violence against Women specially rape have increased. Realizing the worst situation, government has amended Violence against Women and Children Repression Act and incorporated death sentence as the punishment for rapist. On the other hand, NHRCB also has formed a National Inquiry committee to identify solutions. I think that social intolerance and degradation of humane values are the main reasons for increasing trend of VAW and rape. Bangladesh is considered as a role model for women empowerment. Different initiatives have been taken for the development of women. However, women are facing sexual violence and other crimes in public place, work place and other such places. As a result, it affects women empowerment and it blurs achievements of the state. Thus, it is very important to arrest the perpetrators, complete investigation quickly to ensure justice and give exemplary punishment immediately.

I hope that human rights will be established and Bangladesh will stand up with pride in the world when we all will be introduced as human beings not as woman, man, transgender, person with disabilities, ethnic minority. For this, it is important to promote family values,

social values, and ethical values. It is the high time to encourage teenagers for becoming human rights Ambassadors. Present Commission is working to achieve this goal.

Bangladesh in communal harmony

-Nasima Begum, ndc

*Look to Bangladesh where love and fellow-feelings prevail;
Here discrimination (in any form) no more should remain.
On equal terms we'll build the country
And we must see here humanity's victory.
Since we're born as individuals,
On all of us, right to life inherently befalls.
Irrespective of religion, complexion and profession
Right to work must have to be common;
All professions carry its own unique dignity,
The only exception being the mendicancy;
We'll construct our society on equal footings
And then humanity will receive its victory and greetings!
We'll not hurt other's religious sentiment
As that is not what is human rights bent;
But respecting universally each other's religion
Can bring us humanity's emancipation;
Among Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists and Christians
Let there be no discriminations;
Let male and female enjoy equal status
And all along let's find equality is victorious!*

(Translation: Hiranmaya Barai)



Message from Full-Time Member

We are immensely delighted to publish The Annual Report 2021 of the National Human Rights Commission, Bangladesh as per the NHRC Act 2009.

The country this year, is gradually going back to normal lifestyle after Covid-19 Pandemic. The experience of the pandemic has made us rethink the challenges in fighting a pandemic. Besides, we have witnessed discrimination on Covid Vaccination. Ensuring Vaccination for all is important for a healthy world. We now need to realize that “no one is safe until everyone is safe”. So, this year’s Human Rights Day was observed with the theme “Reducing inequalities, advancing human rights.”

Human Rights is universal. No one can take anyone’s rights. Bangladesh has so far, ratified eight out of nine conventions on human rights indicating our respect to human rights. The Father of our nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman fought for human rights throughout his life. The preamble of our constitution states that the fundamental aim of the State is to realize through the democratic process

a society, free from all kinds of exploitation- a society in which rule of law, fundamental human rights and freedom, equality and justice, political, economic and social, will be secured for all citizens. The National Human Rights Commission was established in 2009 to fulfill this aim by the present government.

As per NHRC’s recommendations victims have been provided with compensations for the very first time. Tortured housemaid Khadiza had been Compensated by the Ministry of Home Affairs. 06 lac BDT had been given as compensation to the victim in Bagura by the contractor of Rural Electricity Association. We have recommended the government to amend the NHRC Act 2009.

I believe an Integrated Office Management System and online complaint management system would be introduced shortly. Lastly, I would like to thank all government and non-government stakeholders for their continuous support towards NHRC.

Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed



NHRCB: A Faithful Organization

Hon'ble President of Bangladesh appointed me as an honorary member of NHRCB immediately after my retirement. I felt very happy to get the appointment. I knew that this appointment was without salary but I accepted it happily as I knew that I got an opportunity to work for people's rights because this is the National Human Rights Commission.

We, the government employees do our work for promoting and protecting human rights. I have been working in court for 31 years and witnessed that human rights could be violated in many ways. Weak are being oppressed by the strong everywhere. Thus, state initiates different policies and acts so that people become aware of their rights. Human rights can be defined as protecting rights in many ways. Initiatives of educational activities, old-age allowance, health service management, ensuring Justice all are human rights works. Then, what is the necessity of NHRC?

NHRC pays attention to any kind of human rights violation. It

instructs concerned authorities for ensuring human rights. It sends recommendations and also follows up the implementation of these recommendations. NHRCB works as per the NHRC Act 2009.

The Commission has 12 Thematic Committees. These committees are related to ethnic minorities, transgenders, garments workers etc. Through the functions of these committees NHRC not only sends messages in national level but also in international level.

I have passed 31 years doing same job. Now I have got the opportunity of working in different levels. I am very pleased for that.

It has been 13 years since the NHRCB started journey. Despite limitations in NHRC act, the Commission has completed lots of activities during covid period due to dynamic leadership of the chairman. We have already formed a national inquiry committee under the umbrella of my thematic committee. I got energy when I saw Hon'ble Chairman

kept faith in me and showed courage for doing a national inquiry.

I hope, this work will enlighten the journey of NHRCB.

For the first time, district human rights committees are being formed in districts, which will play key role in ensuring human rights in grassroot level, I believe.

In September, 2022 present commission will complete its term. We will spend rest of our lives in working for human rights.

We hope, the NHRCB will succeed in gaining faith of all the people around the country.

Jesmin Ara Begum
Honorary Member



Editorial

I am pleased to edit the annual report 2021 of NHRC. This report has been prepared as part of activities of NHRC. The Commission is responsible to prepare annual report and submit it to the Hon'ble President of People's Republic of Bangladesh. Hon'ble Chairman and Full-Time Member's guidance has enriched this report. Moreover, the suggestion that I got from hon'ble Chairman has made my work easier and faster.

The overall structure of the report follows the structure of previous years. Not much has been changed in the composition of the first (Introduction to the commission) and fifth (Challenges & Way Forward) chapters as the background and functions of the commission are unchanged and many obstacles remain. However, the information in the second, third and fourth chapters is completely new and those chapters reflect the significant functions of the Commission in 2021. Many, especially human rights activists and journalists, are interested in the

Commission's views on the human rights situation in Bangladesh; the second chapter presents an analysis of the human rights situation in Bangladesh in 2021. The third chapter contains a detailed reflection of the Commission's complaint management and the fourth chapter details important actions.

The year 2021 bought a new different scenario in front of us through the Covid-19 pandemic. Whole world is devastated due to the pandemic. Bangladesh also is facing many troubles to overcome this crisis. Commission's activities continued fighting all the challenges in this crisis situation. The activities of NHRC continued as usual despite all the limitations.

I express my gratitude to hon'ble Chairman, hon'ble Full Time Member and Honorary Members for giving me valuable guidance in drafting this annual report. I am also thankful to my colleagues for assisting me with necessary information.

I hope the report will be helpful for all concerned in obtaining the expected information and that readers will evaluate our dedicated efforts in preparing this report, taking into account all the limitations, errors and deviations.

Narayan Chandra Sarkar

Secretary (Joint Secretary to the
Government)

National Human Rights Commission



NHRCB's Activities on Complaint Management

NHRCB, which was established by the National Human Rights Commission Act 2009, is the reflection of the government's commitment for protecting human rights. Despite challenges the commission is operating activities as per the provisions enshrined in the Act. The whole world has been struggling to protect human rights due to Covid-19 crisis. Many people died and many suffered from coronavirus. As a result, in last two years, the world faced a difficult reality and the task of protecting of human rights became more challenging. In spite of all, NHRCB did not stop its activities. The Commission continued official tasks online led by the present commission.

NHRCB published advertisements on awareness raising about coronavirus in daily newspapers. Besides, some of the remarkable actions can be mentioned here.

The Commission sent recommendations to take action for ensuring health rights, making the hotline of IEDCR available for 24/7, taking special protection measure for

persons with disabilities, freeing the prisoners from crowded prisons and taking steps for protecting prisoners, taking proper legal action for ensuring social distance, arranging for PPE for cleaners, instructing government officials for behaving in a humanely manner etc.

I would like to mention some activities of NHRCB regarding protection of human rights by complaint management. The present commission formed a full bench, 02 regular bench and mediation bench for handling complaints. Besides, a committee has been formed to verify the complaints received from different parts of the country. After the verification, the complaints are sent to 04 separate benches. This year, one of the most remarkable initiatives has been providing compensation for the first time to the victims of human rights violations. As a director, as per the instruction of NHRCB, I have visited the spots of human rights violation cases, investigated them and submitted reports to the commission. NHRCB sent them to concerned

authorities. We are happy that the authorities have already implemented our recommendations sent on the cases of attack in Majhipara, Rangpur and human rights violation in Choto Moni Nibash, Sylhet and Rehabilitation Center for Socially Disabled in Khadim Nagar. NHRCB is following up with the authorities for proper implementation of the recommendations sent on other cases.

In 2021, complaints including that of previous years were 1271 and 972 were disposed among them. In 2021, among 299 pending complaints, there are 02 of 2012, 07 of 2013, 07 of 2014, 04 of 2015, 07 of 2016, 13 of 2017, 22 of 2018, 35 of 2019, 38 of 2020, 164 of 2021. NHRC delegation led by the Hon'ble Chairman inspected

central jails of Sylhet, Sunamganj and Mymensingh and sent recommendations to the government. As per the recommendations the Social Service Division of Ministry of Home Affairs had taken a number of initiatives.

National Human Rights Commission is playing the role of safeguard which is protecting human rights of the people of Bangladesh which will pave the development of the country's human rights situation.

Md. Ashraful Alam

Director (Complaint & Inquiry)
National Human Rights Commission



Covid-19 and Human Rights

Poverty, discrimination and human rights violation all are global challenges. On top of these Covid-19 pandemic has posed an unprecedented crisis worldwide. It has adversely affected human rights including health, employment and human disaster. It has created huge challenges for ensuring economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights. The developed countries where better health services are available also struggled during this pandemic.

Covid-19 has created a challenge for the education system worldwide. Around- six hundred sixteen million (616,000,000) children suffered due to partial or full shut down of schools. Not only that, the children are still being deprived of receiving education which may further increase discrimination and it is seen that their extracurricular activities are already being hampered.

Despite lots of discernable improvements, gender-based discrimination remains not only a challenge for Bangladesh, but also for

the whole world. Moreover, violence against women (VAW) has been a big challenge for the world. It has been noticed that during Covid-19 pandemic VAW has increased so rapidly that it is termed as a ‘Shadow pandemic’. Global crises caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, since early 2020, has risked the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and as a consequence, the SDGs implementation process could be slowed down or even reversed.

SDG’s or Agenda 2030 was adopted in 2015 by all the UN Member States with the aim of implementing clusters of programs including leaving no one behind. Nonetheless, the pandemic has increased poverty and discrimination. Paris based world inequality lab has mentioned in their world Inequality Report 2022 that in recent time economic discrimination has increased and it has reached at its peak during pandemic.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has taken timely and necessary steps during the crisis.

We have monitored and prepared a database of allegation of human rights violations and directed necessary recommendations to concerned authorities. We think that these interventions have made certain positive impact in the protection of human rights.

During this pandemic situation, due to the dynamic leadership of present Commission, the NHRC has taken a number of steps among which one of the most remarkable ones has been conducting a National Inquiry on violence against women and children (VAWC) with focus on rape, for this formation of National Inquiry Committee, with the objective to identity the causes, types and challenges of the issue. The Committee will prepare a report and NHRC will send recommendations to concerned authorities. The report will be published before the end of 2022.

Besides, the present Commission is working to fulfill its dream of making the NHRC a digitalized office. We have already introduced e-File (e-Nothi) and are working to introduce an Integrated Office Management System, which will pave the way of our work. And the service delivery of this institution will be better ensured with transparency and accountability.

The NHRC has started preparing 3rd Five Year Strategic Plan. In this plan, ideas, priorities and the planned activities of the present Commission will be incorporated. I think the lessons learned from the Covid-19 crisis will be reflected in the

Strategic Plan. We have known that many countries of the world have adopted a National Action Plan (NAP) on human rights. The NHRC is also envisaging of developing a NAP on human rights . We hope we will move forward with an inclusive and participatory process by engaging the wider stakeholders where we will be able to advance human rights agenda aligning with the priorities, plans and activities of State and the government through adoption of a National Action Plan on human rights.

I would like to summarize the experiences and lessons learned from Covid-19. We need to have the preparedness for responding to any challenge we may face in the future. But we should always bear in mind that in this preparation, human rights practice is a must. As human rights are inalienable, we need to remember that all our efforts need to be compatible with human rights principles and standards. This means, measures taken for evading health vulnerability should not be contradictory with fundamental rights and freedoms. On the other hand, people should also not violate the laws, rules and regulations as we have some duty to protect the rights of others. So in the end , I would like to say that universal partnership is very important for dealing with all types of challenges as mentioned in SDG 17.

Kazi Arfan Ashik

Director (Admin & Finance)

National Human Rights Commission

The National Human Rights Commission is pleased to present the Annual Report 2021 to the hon'ble President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in accordance with NHRC Act 2009. Like all other years this year too the Commission was sincere in playing its role. In this report a short description of NHRC's activities of 2021. Especially this report highlights NHRC's actions to develop and protect people's civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. This year too NHRC arranged round table discussion, seminar with NGOs, civil society, student and people of all other sectors on raising awareness on human rights, raising voice against human rights violation and the ways for realizing rights.

NHRC reformed its 12 thematic committees incorporating representatives from government and non-government organizations as part of its action plan. The Commission also reformed 04 benches with hon'ble Chairman, Full Time Member and Members: full bench, bench 01, bench 02 and settlement bench for operating complaints related activities. Besides, a committee has been formed to verify the complaints received from around the country. Following the committee's verification next course of action taken in these four benches.

The chapter wise summary of annual report 2021 is given below:

Chapter 01: Introduction of National Human Rights Commission

Formation of the Commission, background, recruitment process of members and continuity of the Commission is discussed. The People's Republic of Bangladesh had been established as a result of struggle for human rights and our Father of the Nation, greatest Bengali of all time Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman made it possible. In the declaration of our Liberation War ensuring equity, human dignity and social justice for the people of Bangladesh was mentioned. In sum, these are called human rights. The constitution of Bangladesh has the reflection of the philosophy of UDHR which was a gift to the nation by Bangabandhu within 10 months of our independence. The Commission was established one decade ago due to the demand of civil society of the country and abroad and all other stakeholders as a balanced organization representing women-men and people of different class-profession.

In addition, this chapter briefly discusses NHRC's mandate, agenda, thematic committees and its activities and action plans.

Chapter 02: Evaluation of human rights situation of Bangladesh

The advancement in the way of achieving SDGs indicates the

advancement in the sphere of economic, social and cultural rights although expected improvement in the sphere of civil and political rights is yet to be achieved. This chapter highlights issue based presentation of the country's human rights situation of 2021 e.g. Rohingya crisis, extrajudicial killings, freedom of expression, death & torture in custody, violence against women & rape, violence against children, right of dalit, hijra, PWDs and other excluded minorities.

Chapter 03: Human Rights Protection by Complaint Management

In this chapter, complaints on human rights violation and inquiry activities are discussed. Specific information based on complaints and inquiry activities of the Commission of one decade are mentioned here.

Actually due to mass awareness on NHRC's activities the number of complaints and their disposal rate have increased in the last few years.

There are specific form for lodging complaint in NHRC. Besides, complaints can be lodged by post, e-mail, telephone, fax and helpline 16108. Besides, hon'ble Chairman has given instruction to take suo moto complaints after seeing media reports on human rights violation and suo moto complaints are taken accordingly.

From reports published in newspaper, online news agencies NHRC officials are monitoring human rights violation reports daily. From 16 newspapers

monthly/ annual human rights situation monitoring report is being prepared.

Among 1271 complaints including those of previous years, NHRC disposed 972 in 2021. Remaining pending complaints include 02 of 2012, 07 of 2014, 04 of 2015, 07 of 2016, 13 of 2017, 22 of 2018, 35 of 2019, 38 of 2020 and 164 of 2021. This year, the NHRC representatives led by hon'ble Chairman visited Sylhet, Sunamganj and Mymensingh Jails. As per the NHRC's recommendation after the visit, the Security Services Division took several activities for improving the condition of prisoners.

Chapter 04: Remarkable activities of NHRC in 2021

This chapter discusses the institutional capacities of the Commission in terms of maintaining responsibilities in accordance with NHRC Act 2009. Creating awareness on human rights is one of the core duties of the Commission.

Some of the remarkable activities of NHRC include launching human rights scholarships, online human rights course, handing over the draft Sexual Harassment Prevention and Protection Act to hon'ble Minister of Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs. This year essay and quiz competition on "Liberation war, Independence and Humane Values" participated by students of class 09-10 and 11-12 was held around the country. For mass publicity about the competition advertisement was published in widely published

newspapers and electronic media. More than 1.5 lac students took part spontaneously. Besides, on the occasion of celebrating human rights day NHRC arranged rally around the country. NHRC participated in the online national and international seminars and exchanged views on human rights situation and way forward. In these seminars, NHRC called on international community to come forward for resolving Rohingya crisis. In accordance with the ideas generated in these meetings Commission is working for upholding human rights and specifying its future actions. The brief discussion of this can be found in this chapter.

Chapter 05: Commission's Present Challenges & Way Forward

In this chapter, Commission's challenges along with successes have been discussed. Huge expectation has been created through the Commission's implemented activities in 2021. Besides, Commission has created many human rights defenders

who will play strong role in protecting human rights and preventing human rights violation in future. Despite lots of success Commission is facing many challenges. One among these is NHRC Act itself. It is important to amend this act according to Paris Principles to make the Commission effective and independent. Other than these, there are shortages of logistics and personnel power.

Commission thinks that, it is very difficult to protect human rights in a populous country like Bangladesh as there are various religions, languages and ethnic groups. NHRC is trying to overcome the challenges with its limited resources in coordination with related stakeholders. The Commission believes that through this report hon'ble President of the Republic, government, development partners, stakeholders will get a clear and overall idea about the achievements of the Commission in 2021. In addition, they will know about future plan of the Commission.

NHRCB: Background and Functions

Our beloved country People's Republic of Bangladesh was established as a result of struggle for human rights. It was possible due to our Father of the nation the Greatest Bengali of all time Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Proclamation of our Liberation War clearly mentions about ensuring equity, human dignity and social justice. Collectively they are called human rights. 30 articles of UDHR are fully reflected in the constitution that was gifted by Bangabandhu within 10 months of our independence. Besides, the proclamation of our constitution writes "it shall be a fundamental aim of the State to realize through the democratic process a socialist society, free from exploitation a society in which the rule of law, fundamental human rights and freedom, equality and justice, political, economic and social, will be secured for all citizens."

Though the concept and ideals of human rights were well incorporated into the Constitution of Bangladesh in 1972 it took quite a long time to come up with the first initiative to form a national Commission for promoting and protecting human rights in the country. It was by the present government that they first felt the necessity of creating an aura of human rights and establishing rule of law in the country, removing the culture of impunity, upheld by the previous rulers

after their epoch-making political rise in 1996. Achieving a hard-earned and glorious victory in the national election the new government was burdened with numerous initiatives regarding restoration of democracy, bringing war-criminals under trial, reforming systems and machineries and reconstructing many projects and programs for leading the country towards development. Moreover, the government became mindful to create a paradigm towards establishing a broad-based human rights culture in the society. And with the help of UNDP a draft-legislation was made in 1998 with a view to forming a Commission. But the legacy of procrastination of the previous regime was still prevailing; and, therefore, the issue remained pending and under consideration for a long time. At last a Commission came into being on 1st September 2008 with the promulgation of National Human Rights Commission Ordinance 2007. A three-member Commission started working on 1st December, 2008. But as a matter of fact the National Human Rights Commission, Bangladesh assumed a full-fledged shape and came into people's sight after the enactment of the National Human rights Commission Act-2009. The legislation enabled NHRCB to start functioning with full capacity in June 2010. The second Commission under the spell of the NHRC Act 2009 worked for two terms until June 2016. The fourth Commission worked till June 2019. The present one is literally the fifth

Commission that commences its journey on 23 September 2019. It is composed of a Chairman, a Full-time Member and five other honorary Members.

1.1 Mandates

The National Human Rights Commission is legally mandated to work extensively with the prime objective of establishing human rights in the country. The Commission needs to intervene into quite a lot of aspects including examining human rights situation of the country, legal system, national and international policies and conventions on human rights etc. And that is why the Commission's mandates are extensive. The principal mandates of the Commission may be categorized as below:



1.2 Different Roles of NHRCB

Watchdog role: NHRCB predominantly plays an observing and monitoring role on human rights

violation; NHRCB watches, studies and analyzes the prevailing human rights situation of the country.

Advocacy role: NHRCB holds advocacy with government and non-government organizations, NGOs, INGOs, donors and development partners etc. on many fronts. NHRCB makes awareness building programs, sends recommendations and guidelines to the government and duty-bearers to establish human rights. NHRCB launches call for action to international community to come forward in helping special crises such as the Rohingya crisis ongoing presently.

Catalytic role: NHRCB plays as a catalyst role and operates as a push factor towards achieving targeted goals and objectives on human rights issues in different times.

Pioneering role: NHRCB pioneers awareness raising campaigns; works as a forerunner of ideas and highlights and addresses particular situation on human rights; NHRCB has the aptitude to initiate a debate or a dialogue and it holds interactive sessions with counterparts to discuss aspects on human rights. Working on thematic areas NHRCB paves the way for launching new initiatives like the National Inquiry Committee on Violence against Women (VAW) to identify causes of VAW and rape.

Bridging role: NHRCB is the common platform for many stakeholders; NHRCB brings many persons and organizations together in a forum to discuss on human rights and bridges NGOs, CSOs with the

government towards achieving targeted objectives collectively.

Harmonizing role: NHRCB initiates reviewing or drafting new legislation or policy harmonizing public demands and national and international instruments. NHRCB proactively drives and leads legal reforms in collaboration with relevant stakeholders; NHRCB worked on Human Trafficking (Deterrence and Prevention) Act 2013, Children Act 2013, Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017, and Draft-Anti-Discrimination Law, Draft Sexual Harassment (Prevention and Protection) Act 2021. NHRCB interprets situational development on ICCPR, ICESCR, VAW, CEDAW etc. for local advocacy perspectives.

Supervising role: NHRCB initiates field visits and constitutes Fact Finding Missions to find out the root causes behind sensational incidences of violation.

Mouthpiece role: NHRCB raises voice against violation or breach of human rights distinctly and loudly. NHRCB encourages other human rights defenders to be united to consolidate a movement on certain demands on human rights. NHRCB seizes an opportunity to promote a situation on human rights in collaboration with stakeholders, media and government as well as per the demand of the time.

Collaborating role: NHRCB works in partnership and collaboration with relevant CSOs, CBOs, NGOs and sponsors joint programs to reach certain targeted goals. In this regard

NHRCB comes under MOUs with different organizations.

Faithful organisation's role:

NHRCB may be considered as the faithful organisation for seeking justice by the less fortunate and vulnerable people. NHRCB tries to respect, protect and fulfill the rights of people. Salam Dhali case may be identified as the apt exponent of NHRCB's intervention to establish justice as the last resort.

1.3 Agenda

The visionary goal of the National Human Rights Commission is to establish a broad-based human rights culture in the country; and to reach that goal NHRCB's agenda necessarily become many. Main agenda are described below:

- Advocacy on establishing the rights of poor, weak, marginalized and vulnerable people
- Advocacy on establishing rights of women (ensuring empowerment, removing abuse, torture, discrimination, sexual harassment, gender based violence, trafficking etc.)
- Advocacy on establishing child rights (combating early and forced marriage, eve-teasing, rape, sexual harassment, dropouts from school, child labor, trafficking etc.)
- Advocacy on establishing rights of persons with disabilities
- Advocacy on establishing rights of the Third Gender and excluded minorities

- Advocacy on establishing rights of the ethnic & religious minorities (focusing on Land Rights, Discrimination etc.)
- Advocacy on establishing rights of ethnic minorities of CHTs and plain land areas (focusing on Land Rights, Discrimination etc.)
- Advocacy on Rohingya Issue
- Advocacy on addressing Terrorism and Extremism
- Advocacy on addressing Drug Addiction, Drug Trade/ Trafficking etc.
- Advocacy on addressing Migrant Workers' Rights
- Advocacy on addressing violence by LEAs (Torture, Custodial Torture etc.)
- Advocacy on addressing Climate Change, man-made and natural disasters affecting human rights
- Advocacy on addressing Business and Human Rights (occupational safety, workers' rights, Trade Union Rights etc.)
- Advocacy on establishing rights of the Elderly People
- Advocacy on establishing Rights of Freedom of Expression
- Forming Human Rights Protection Club which will include student cabinet of secondary and higher secondary level in all upazilla and representatives of Anti-Corruption Commission's "Satata Sangha" with the aim of

raising humanitarian values from grass-root level to the centre. Members of this club will work as human rights ambassadors.

1.4 Thematic Committee

The visionary goal of the National Human Rights Commission is to establish a broad-based human rights culture in the country; and to reach that goal NHRCB's agenda necessarily become many. NHRC has formed 12 thematic committees accordingly:

- Committee to advise government on acts, treaties and conventions on human rights
- Committee on Dalit, Hijra, Religious, Ethnic, Non-citizen and other excluded minorities' rights
- Committee on Persons with Disability and Autism
- Committee on Child Rights and Child Labor
- Committee on Business & Human Rights and CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility)
- Committee on Climate Change, Environment and Disaster Management
- Committee on Migrant Worker's Rights and Anti Trafficking
- Committee on Respecting others opinion with a view to create moral values and awareness on human rights
- Committee on CHT Affairs
- Committee on Elderly People's Rights

- Committee on Violence against Women
- Committee on Economic, Social, Cultural, Civil and Political Rights

1.5 Functions and strategies

The National Human Rights Commission follows its second Five-Year Strategic Plan (2016-2020) to operationalize its functions. An annual action plan now called the Annual Performance Agreement (APA) is made beforehand to be performed within a financial year (July to June). Activities are included in the APA as per the priority of the Strategic Plan and considering the contemporary human rights outlook and incidental demands of the time. NHRCB's functions include but are not limited to the following:

- Identifying and prioritizing the issues on human rights; (through media report, Global comparative study, reports of different internationally reputed organizations and citizens' feedback etc.)
- Studying, analyzing, and monitoring on human rights situation;
- Collecting and preserving data on different human rights issues;
- Raising protest against human rights violations including disappearance, harassment, unlawful arrest by police, torture in custodies etc.
- Conducting enquiries and investigations as part of its legal mandate;

- Taking cognizance suo moto on sensational violations of human rights;
- Acting as party to certain cases in favor of the victims in the court;
- Adopting mediation and reconciliation to deliver human rights services through mutually acceptable solutions;
- Providing counseling and legal aid to the victims and vulnerable groups;
- Initiating field visits and Fact-Finding Missions to the affected and, or vulnerable places including places of occurrences of violation of rights;
- Sending recommendations and guidelines to the Government and to other authorities to improve human rights situation;
- Working on awareness building and advocacy by arranging workshop, seminar, roundtable conferences etc.
- Collaborating with NGOs, CSOs, donors, development partners, human rights defenders and other organizations for establishing human rights;
- Organizing training programs for officers, members of law enforcement agencies (LEAs), lawyers and human rights defenders including journalists for promoting and protecting human rights;
- Participating in the international

and regional programs organized by GANHRI, APF, UNHRC etc. and working together with them on a greater human rights platform; also participating in international cooperation and reporting to the Treaty Bodies and the UPR regularly; sending recommendations to the government on UPR and highlighting the recommendations made by international community for implementation so that national

human rights situation can be harmonized with international standards.

- Signing MoU with Ministry of Education and Anti-Corruption Commission for forming Human Rights Protection Club which will include student cabinet of secondary and higher secondary level in all upazilla and representatives of Anti-Corruption Commission's "Satata Sangha" with the aim of raising humane values from root to center.



Paying homage to the language martyrs on International Mother Language Day 2021

Human Rights Outlook in 2021: An Evaluation

Bangladesh has celebrated 50 years of its independence in 2021. On 06 February 2021 UN Committee for Development Policy (CDP) has given final recommendation for graduating Bangladesh from LDC category to developing country after reversing the developmental progress of Bangladesh. This recommendation was accepted by the UN General Assembly on 24 November. This year Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been conferred with “SDG progress Award” as recognition of Bangladesh’s Progress in achieving SDGs. On the other hand, Bangladesh has faced multifaceted challenges in fighting with Covid-19 in this year too. Although the government of Bangladesh has Succeeded in reducing the risk of Covid-19 by declaring lockdown and providing vaccines, many people have lost jobs and the number of people living under poverty line has increased. As a result, discrimination has increased and human rights violation has occurred.

This year, Violence against Woman, road accident, torture on minorities and election violence have been matters of concern. Human rights culture is not only a matter of government, personal, familial and social behavior also matter for this. Just as road accidents are human rights violation. We are also violating the rights of others by disobeying the law. This year, domestic violence and child marriage are alarming. In this year too media reported about the news of crossfire by LEAs, torture and death in

custody. On the other hand, casualties by BSF in India-Bangladesh border also occurred in this year.

2.1. Rohingya Crisis

This year, UN has adopted resolution on Rohingya for the first time. OIC and EU jointly tabled this resolution. This initiative is thought to be the strong commitment of international community to resolve Rohingya crisis. The resolution also recognized the government’s efforts and investments in building the facilities in Bhashan char for relocation of a portion of the Rohingya from the congested camps and in this regard, also welcomed the pacts signed by Bangladesh with UNHCR. Government has relocated some Rohingyas to Bhashan char this year. After 2017 more than one million Rohingyas have taken shelter in Bangladesh. This has created pressure on the country. Besides, criminal activities by the Rohingyas in the camps are increasing day by day, which is threat to rule of law. The situation is get to be improved.

On 29 September, Rohingya leader Mohibullah was killed in lambashia camp in ukhiya, Cox’s Bazar. Mohibullah was vocal on safe repatriation of Rohingyas to Myanmar. Media reported that, a group of Rohingyas who are against repatriation were giving threat to Mohibullah in the camp. Besides, on 22 October, 07 Rohingya were killed by crossfire between two groups of Rohingya terrorists. This type of casualties occurred in previous days also.

Commission acknowledges the continuation of diplomatic efforts of government in various international forums. NHRC calls on government to continue strong diplomatic effort for resolving Rohingya crisis.

2.2 Extra-Judicial Killings

This year killing of Md. Sohel, Counselor of Comilla City Corporation and member of Momhanogor Awami League by miscreants created mass concern. People assumed that the accused of this murder case will be caught immediately and justice will be ensured. But, three accused killers were killed in cross fire.

Another incident of extra-judicial killing occurred in Gondmara union of Bashkhali Upazilla in Chattagram. In this area 5 labors were killed during clash among police-laborer and people of that area due to labour dissatisfaction in a private power station. In this clash 12 people injured.

2.3 Minority people's rights situation

On 13 October during Durga Puja Hindu households were vandalized and torched by in Comilla due to allegation defaming Quran and giving provocative post in social media. Since the first attack, in Comilla, mobs have torched dozens of Hindu homes and vandalized temples and statues throughout the country.

NHRC expresses concern on these attacks and has sent recommendation to government after investigation. Deputy Commissioner of Rangpur informed NHRC that some recommendations have already been implemented.

2.4. Torture and Death in Custody

Gross human rights violations such as torture and death in police custody has been reported this year too. NHRC

expresses deep concern on these and took suo moto complaints. NHRC also asked for reports from government. On 26 February, media reported about death of writer Mushtaq in jail. Commission took this suo moto and sent letter to MOHA for neutral investigation and sending report to NHRC.

In January, media reported death about intern lawyer Rezaul Karim Reza. NHRC sent letter to MOHA for informing Commission about the steps taken and about sending report of the 3-member investigation committee headed by Deputy Commissioner of Barishal Metropolitan Police.

On 12 December media reported about death of Bablu Sarder in police custody in Satkhira. His family alleged that detective police beaten him to death. NHRC sent letter to MOHA for taking legal action immediately on this case and send report to NHRC.

2.5 Freedom of Expression

Freedom of expression is constitutional right. It is mandatory to respect every article of constitution. It is also not prudent to misuse freedom of expression. On the other hand, violating other's rights due to expressing opinion independently is not accepted at all. In 2021, media reported about news of arresting Journalists by misusing Digital Security Act. On the other hand, women, persons with disabilities and marginalized people are insulted in the name of freedom of expression. NHRC believes that, rights giver and rights enjoyer both have to respect each other. Human rights cannot be implemented without playing own responsibilities.

2.6 Violence against Women

During Covid-19 Pandemic Violence

On 19 December, a house wife was gang raped in a running bus in Narayanganj. On 14 December a student of Dhaka University Elma Chowdhury Meghla died with sign of torture in her body in Banani, Dhaka. Her Family alleged that she died of domestic violence.

Today's Children are tomorrow's future. They will lead the world in future. Like previous years, incidents of child torture, rape and murder were noticed. In Joypurhat a student of class 03 was tortured for allegation of theft and this video became viral in social media. In Gazipur, 2.5 years old Child Mariam died by the torture of step mother Alifa Akter. NHRC believes that, this type of crime has increased due to degradation of social and humane values. Ensuring Exemplary punishment for the perpetrators is mandatory to prevent violation of child rights.



**Achieving Sustainable Development
Goals to Protect Human Rights**

**National Human Rights
Commission**

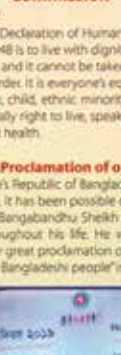


What are Human Rights?

The main rule of Universal Declaration of Human Rights declared by the United Nations on 10 December 1948 is to live with dignity by birth. This right belongs to everyone as a human being and it cannot be taken away. Human Rights is eternal and is not limited by any border. It is everyone's equal rights regardless of religion, color, gender, youth, elderly, child, ethnic minority, indigenous, disability. In one word, Human Rights is actually right to live, speak and move freely, right to food, cloth, shelter, education and health.

Human Rights in Great Proclamation of our Liberation War

Our beloved country People's Republic of Bangladesh was established as a result of fighting for human rights. It has been possible due to our Father of the Nation, Greatest Bengali of all year Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He taught to establish human rights throughout his life. He was the greatest leader of our liberation war in 1971. In our great proclamation of Liberation War 'Eduy; human dignity and social justice for Bangladesh people' is clearly mentioned.



Hoojze Prime Minister and the guests are uttering 'We Protect Human Rights' on the occasion of Human Rights Day on 10 December 2019

Human Rights in Constitution

In the preamble of our constitution, it is committed to ensure rule of law, fundamental rights and political, economic, social equity, freedom and justice. In article 11 of 2nd part of Bangladesh's 1972 constitution the principles of state policy are democracy, fundamental human rights, independence and ensuring respect to human dignity. In 3rd part, all fundamental human rights are clearly mentioned which is fully relevant to UN Declaration.

Human Rights and Sustainable Development Goals

193 member states of United Nations adopted Sustainable Development Goals for the term of 2013-2030 in UN 70th Assembly. It incorporates 17 Goals and 169 Targets including Poverty eradication, freedom from hunger, preventing inequality, fighting climate change, ensuring good health, education, empowerment of women and girl child etc. In a study in 2018, Danish Institute of Human Rights showed that 156 targets of 169 targets of SDG are related to human rights. The Commission has taken various actions through thematic committees formed with representatives from different ministries, civil society, experts and Members of the Commission.

Protecting Rights by Dealing with Complaints

3.1 Received Complaints Statistics from 2011 till 2021

Year	Complaints of Previous years	Yearwise received complaints	Total Complaints (1+2)	Yearwise Disposal	Yearwise Pending/ non-disposal (3-4)
Column No.	1	2	3	4	5
2011	64	233	297	285	12
2012	12	635	647	472	175
2013	175	477	652	467	185
2014	185	660	845	524	321
2015	321	567	888	389	499
2016	499	692	1191	430	761
2017	761	644	1405	604	801
2018	801	733	1534	1080	454
2019	454	779	1233	669	564
2020	564	481	1045	347	698
2021	698	573	1271	972	299
Total	4534	6474	11008	6239	4769

Citizens of the country can lodge complaints in NHRCB in accordance with article 12 of NHRC Act 2009. Since establishment NHRCB has been receiving and disposing complaints. Most of the pending complaints of 2011-2018 were disposed in 2018. That's why the disposal number was highest (1080) in 2018. Due to covid-19, the number of complaints was low

(481) in 2020 and most of them (347) were disposed as the official activities continued online. In 2021, complaints including that of previous years were 1271 and 972 were disposed among them. In 2021, among 299 pending complaints, there are 02 of 2012, 07 of 2013, 07 of 2014, 04 of 2015, 07 of 2016, 13 of 2017, 22 of 2018, 35 of 2019, 38 of 2020, 164 of 2021.

3.2 Statistics of disposal of year wise complaints received from 2011 to 2021

In 2011, total 233 complaints were received; among them 221 were disposed in 2021 and 12 complaints were disposed in 2012. Besides, since 2012 till 2021 disposal year and number of received complaints are mentioned below:

Statistics of received complaints of 2012

Total complaints received- 635
Disposed of- 460

Number of complaints disposed of in other years

Year	Number
2013	121
2014	17
2015	03
2016	05
2017	01
2018	24
2019	0
2020	0
2021	2

02 complaints are pending in 2021

Statistics of received complaints of 2013

Total complaints received- 477
Disposed of- 346

Number of complaints disposed of in other years

Year	Number
2014	89
2015	08
2016	07

Year	Number
2017	03
2018	13
2019	02
2020	0
2021	2

07 complaints are pending in 2021

Statistics of received complaints of 2014

Total complaints received- 660
Disposed of- 418

Number of complaints disposed of in other years

Year	Number
2015	135
2016	30
2017	05
2018	46
2019	07
2020	0
2021	12

07 complaints are pending in 2021

Statistics of received complaints of 2015

Total complaints received- 567
Disposed of- 243

Number of complaints disposed of in other years

Year	Number
2016	148
2017	45
2018	91
2019	15
2020	03
2021	18

04 complaints are pending in 2021

Statistics of received complaints of 2016

Total complaints received- 692

Disposed of- 240

Number of complaints disposed of in other years

Year	Number
2017	216
2018	203
2019	17
2020	01
2021	08

07 complaints are pending in 2021

Statistics of received complaints of 2017

Total complaints received- 644

Disposed of- 334

Number of complaints disposed of in other years

Year	Number
2018	206
2019	59
2020	03
2021	29

13 complaints are pending in 2021

Statistics of received complaints of 2018

Total complaints received- 733

Disposed of- 497

Number of complaints disposed of in other years

Year	Number
2019	159
2020	03
2021	52

22 complaints are pending in 2021

Statistics of received complaints of 2019

Total complaints received- 779

Disposed of- 410

Number of complaints disposed of in other years

Year	Number
2020	206
2021	128

35 complaints are pending in 2021

Statistics of received complaints of 2020

Total complaints received- 481

Disposed of- 131

Number of complaints disposed of in other years

Year	Number
2021	312

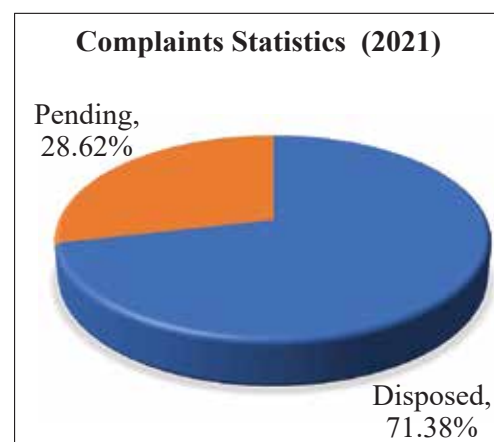
38 complaints are pending in 2021

Statistics of received complaints of 2021

Total complaints received- 573

Disposed of- 409

Pending- 164



3.3 Statistics of received complaints of (2021)

(01 January 2021 - 31 December 2021)

SL.	Type of Complaint	Total Complaint	Disposed of	Pending	Waiting for Decision
01	Murder	10	10	0	0
02	Rape	10	8	1	1
03	Torture for dowry	5	4	1	0
04	Sexual Harassment	4	2	2	0
05	Domestic Violence	5	4	1	0
06	Violence against women	3	2	1	0
07	Family matter (conjugal problem, divorce, maintenance etc.)	38	30	7	1
08	Child rape	1	0	1	0
09	Child Labour	1	1	0	0
10	Child marriage	3	2	1	0
11	Disappearance	8	3	3	2
12	Death in custody	1	0	1	0
13	Torture in Custody	3	1	2	0
14	Extrajudicial Killings	1	0	1	0
15	Complaint against Police	28	20	7	1
16	Fake case	20	17	2	1
17	Kidnapping	2	1	1	0
18	Minority torture	2	2	0	0
19	Rights of ethnic minority	4	2	2	0
20	Violation of freedom of speech & movement	2	2	0	0

SL.	Type of Complaint	Total Complaint	Disposed of	Pending	Waiting for Decision
21	Detention without trial	5	4	1	0
22	Threat to security	26	22	4	0
23	Job/ Allow- ance/Union/work environment related complaints	63	38	23	2
24	Land/property problem	92	74	12	6
25	Hospital/Treatment related	4	0	4	0
26	Allowances	1	0	1	0
27	Suicide	1	1	0	0
28	Rights of elder people	2	1	1	0
29	Migrant worker	6	4	2	0
30	Human Trafficking	3	0	2	1
31	Legal aid	6	4	2	0
32	Personal Conflict	2	1	1	0
33	Rights of PWDs	4	1	3	0
34	Property Succession	18	15	3	0
35	Corruption	17	14	3	0
36	Discrimination	3	1	2	0
37	Financial exchange	15	13	2	0
38	Complaints against non-government human rights organisations	4	2	2	0
39	Others	75	58	15	2
Total =		498	364	117	17

3.4 Statistics of Suo Moto Complaints (2021)

(01 January 2021 - 31 December 2021)

SL.	Type of Complaint	Total	Source			Disposal	Pending
			Newspaper	TV	Others		
01	Murder	1	1	0	0	0	1
02	Rape	3	3	0	0	0	3
03	Torture for Dowry	1	1	0	0	1	0
04	Domestic Violence	2	2	0	0	2	0
05	Violence against women	3	2	1	0	3	0
06	Family Matters: (Conjugal conflicts, divorce, maintenance etc.)	1	1	0	0	1	0
07	Child Rape	1	1	0	0	1	0
08	Child Torture	1	1	0	0	1	0
09	Torturing Housemaid	1	1	0	0	1	0
10	Corporal punishment	2	1	1	0	0	2
11	Death in Custody	4	4	0	0	2	2
12	Complaints against police	5	3	1	1	3	2
13	Fake case	1	1	0	0	1	0
14	Journalist torture	1	1	0	0	1	0
15	Rights of ethnic minority and dalit	4	4	0	0	4	0
16	Violation of freedom of speech and movement	1	1	0	0	1	0

SL.	Type of Complaint	Total	Source			Disposal	Pending
			Newspaper	TV	Others		
17	Job/ Salary-allowance/ Union/Working environment related	2	0	2	0	0	2
18	Property grabbing	1	1	0	0	1	0
19	Hospital/Health service related	8	4	4	0	6	2
20	Elderly People's Rights	1	0	1	0	0	1
21	Migrant workers	1	0	1	0	0	1
22	Human Trafficking	2	0	2	0	1	1
23	Right to PWDs	3	2	1	0	1	2
24	Property Succession	1	0	1	0	0	1
25	Environment related	1	1	0	0	0	1
26	Corruption related	3	3	0	0	2	1
27	Discrimination	2	1	0	1	1	1
28	Others	18	15	2	1	11	7
	Total=	75	55	17	3	45	30

3.5 Some Remarkable Success of Suo Moto complaints

NHRC's recommendation against human trafficking (Complaint No. Suo Moto- Dha- 17/21)

Media reported about terrible scenario of human trafficking in India, Middle East and Europe; emergence of new drug LSD and easily available pornography are damaging our future generation. NHRC noticed these reports. In this context, NHRC has given some recommendations as follows: Commission believes that, police will continue all efforts to combat these crimes. Police are the protector of people. If police feel helpless in controlling these crimes, people will feel Unsecured. In this context, Senior Secretary of Public Security Division is recommended to increase surveillance of law enforcement agencies and beat policing activities in possible routes of drug and human trafficking.

Mass awareness is important to control drug, human trafficking and pornography. Awareness, strong family ties, social resistance and strict surveillance of administration can combat these crimes. Thus, Secretary, Coordination and Reform, Cabinet Division is recommended to increase surveillance and create awareness in grassroot levels.

People are becoming victim of fraudulent activities by several recruiting agencies and brokers. Thus, Secretary, Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment is recommended to take necessary action against this.

NHRC believes that we need to expedite justice process. Because punishment rate of human trafficking cases is very low. Thus Secretary, Law and Justice Division is recommended to take necessary action to expedite trial process of the cases related to human trafficking.

Senior Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs is recommended to act jointly with the destination countries for controlling these transnational crimes.

A group of illicit businessmen are sharing porn videos due to easy availability of Pornography. As a result, young generation's moral and behavioral degradation are seen. Moreover, they are being involved in Teenage Gang and committing crimes. Thus Secretary, BTRC is recommended to take necessary actions for controlling pornography.

It is important to investigate how the "Adhar card" is given to the victims of trafficking in India and who are involved in this. In this context, His Excellency High commissioner of Bangladesh in new Delhi, India is recommended to take necessary action regarding this issue.

BTRC has informed NHRC that already 22000 porn sites are closed and if NHRC sends BTRC any link of porn site that is still accessible they will take immediate action to close that.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs has informed NHRC that every year many young girls are being trafficked to India through Benapole-Petropole border. Specially many women and

children of Bangladesh become victims of trafficking and are sold to brothels in various states including Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai and West Bengal. Besides, many women and children are being caught by the Law Enforcement Agency in India as infiltrator and they lead miserable life in jails and safe homes in India. In the border area of Petropole, there are some shops and they give “Adhar card” to the trafficked girls in exchange of 500/600 rupees. In many cases, traffickers of both countries are involved in supplying these cards. It is also known that in past several companies used to supply these cards taking tender from government. As a result, brokers could easily collect these cards most of which were fake.

Bangladesh government and Bangladeshi mission in India are considering the fact with due importance and working in coordination with relevant ministries. In the meantime, many victims of women and children are being repatriated and the process is continuing.

Tenant hostages house owner (Suo Moto Dha. 26/21)

On 22 September 2021, Ekattor TV reported that tenant had hostaged home owner in Dhaka. NHRC took Suo Moto complaint on this and Deputy Director M. Rabiul Islam is told to do fact finding and submit report. The report mentioned that during visit, it was seen that water and electricity connections were disconnected in that home. Due to NHRC’s intervention, the water and electricity got

reconnected. Victim family thanked NHRC for assistance.

Rehabilitation of disabled child Sharmin (Suo Moto- 33/20)

On 9 December 2020, Prothom Alo reported that mentally ill Sharmin (8) was detained by her parents since one year. Poor parents had to detain her due to fear of losing her. Her parents earn by begging. As a result of instruction given by NHRC, for her treatment, education and training 20,000/- taka was given by local administration and National Disability Development Foundation was instructed to take necessary action for ensuring her treatment, education and training.

Son kicked his mother out of the house (Suomoto - 55.12.000. 105.31.001. 20)

Daily Samakal reported that sons Dev Kundu kicked his mother out of the house in Kurigram area of Narail. The old woman Maya Rani alleged that his son sold their land and misbehaved with her and kicked her out of the house. NHRC instructed Deputy Commissioner of Narail to arrange old-age allowance for Maya Rani and lodge case against the son under Parents Maintenance Act 2013. The district administration sent report and mentioned that the local administration rescued the mother and got her admitted into hospital for treatment.

District administration and Directorate of Social Welfare gave the cost of medicine and treatment. They also supplied food and clothes for her. The son and daughter-in law sought apology and promised to keep their

mother with them and take care of her. Maya Rani also expressed her willingness to live with her son. So, now she is living with her son, is given old - age allowance and the local administration also provided her with 10,000 BDT and clothes.

Assistance to Shamima Sultana Sheoti who has won Physical Disability (Suomoto - Khu 03/21)

NHRC noticed the media report that Shamima Sultana Sheoti has won physical disability and completed Master's degree ". The report was on-aired at Ekattor TV and it was reported that daughter of a fisherman in Satkhira could not walk by birth. Despite her physical disability she completed Masters degree in 2016. But she had not got any job. She also mentioned about not getting any facility of disability quota.

District administration of Satkhira reported that as per the instruction of NHRC they have provided Shamima with training on ICT and internet and

also after the training they gave her laptop, modem, key-board, mouse as donation. Besides, Bangladesh Administrative Service Association, Satkhira branch has sponsored shelter, food and clothes for her.

Physically disabled Bipob failed to prove that he is alive (suomoto khu 11/21)

On 20 August 2021 Bhorer Kagoj reported that in 2018, voter list was updated around the country, During this time, physically disabled Biplob Azad (52) was mentioned as dead. As a result, he was deprived of the facilities of PWDs. Even he could not have legal property documents, could not implement his right as voter and also could not get covid-19 vaccine. In this context, NHRC thinks that following matters should be answered:

- (a) Why Mr. Azad is failing to prove that he is alive?
- (b) Have the concerned authority seen Mr. Azad physically? Is there any



similarity in his NID and Disability Certificate regarding his photo and type of disability?

(c) Is he shown dead in the birth-death registration of union parishad? If yes in what basis he is shown dead?

(d) In what basis, disabled Biplob is shown dead during updating voter list?

NHRC instructed UNO Doulotpur, Kushtia to submit report after investigation and verification of the documents. In the report, it was mentioned that Biplob was shown dead by mistake and it was corrected on 18/08/2021.

During form fill up information collector and supervisor filled the form of late Khademul Islam Biplob's father. In the form the name of Khadimul Islam was correct but his son Biplob's NID number was written in his father's form by mistake. As a result Biplob was shown dead.

Victim Biplob's NID and disability certificates were similar and disability type was right. He used to take disability allowance till September, 2020. Since October 2020 when allowance giving started through mobile banking, Biplob was shown dead in MIS software of Election Commission. For this reason, it was not possible to provide him with allowance. However, at present, he has taken corrected NID and he is enlisted in the regular list of allowance enjoyers.

It is known from telephone conversation with Biplob that he has got allowance card as a result of NHRC's intervention.

Staff takes away oxygen mask for getting low tips, teenage boy was dead. (Soumoto Ra. 09/21)

On 10 November 2021 media reported that a Staff takes away oxygen mask for getting low tips, teenage boy was dead. According to the media report, a complaint has been raised against a staff of Shahid Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital that he took oxygen mask away from a teenage patient due to not getting tips according to his demand. Victim's name was Bikash Candra Karmaker (15). To verify the complaint hospital authority formed 4 member investigation team. Alleged Asaduzzaman was part time staff of the hospital and he has been fugitive since the incidence.

NHRC chairman discussed the matter in Full Bench on 11 November 2021. The bench condemned the case and termed it "a murder" and also demanded exemplary punishment. The Full Bench decided to send following guideline to the government in accordance with article 12(1) of NHRC Act 2009.

- (1) Immediately ban the tips culture in all the public/private hospitals through spreading notice/circular.
- (2) Publicize that taking tips is punishable offence.
- (3) Monitoring the service providing area of patient through CCTV camera.

NHRC sent these recommendations to Cabinet Division and urged for their implementation. Later on, Director of concerned Medical College and Officer - in-charge of concerned police

station informed the NHRC that a case had been filed and main perpetrator had been arrested.

Robbers raped intellectually disabled girl (Suo moto 42/20)

NHRC noticed in media that on 23 September 2020, 9 robbers raped an intellectually disabled girl in Khagrachari. Two cases have been filed on this incidence.

NHRC sent letter to Public Security Division of Ministry of Home Affairs to ensure punishment for the perpetrators and inform NHRC about the actions taken. MOHA sent report to the Commission mentioning that 07 alleged perpetrators were being arrested and they were surrendered to the court. All of them confessed their crime in front of the court. Police were trying to arrest other perpetrators.

NHRC also instructed Superintendent of Police to arrest other perpetrators immediately and ensure security of the victim and her family.

Father killed for demanding justice against the torture on disabled son (Suo moto 44/19)

On 19 October 2019 The Bangladesh Protidin reported that a father was killed for demanding justice against the torture on his disabled son. Media reported that a farmer Moti Mia (55) was killed in Hobiganj by his opponent party for going to complaint against them. Officer-in-charge of Sadar Model Thana Md. Masuk Ali informed that conflict raised between two people on a very silly matter and as a result, Moti Mia got sick. He was declared dead after taking to the hospital. No

Complaint had been lodged on this case.

NHRC instructed Ministry of Social welfare to take legal action and inform the Commission. The Ministry reported that Deputy Director of Directorate of Social Welfare in Hobiganj investigated the matter. The complaint proved right. The Ministry requested the Directorate of Social Welfare to take legal action. As the complaint proved right, NHRC instructed the Superintendent of Police, Habiganj to lodge case and inform Commission. SP informed NHRC that case had been lodged. Additional IGP of CID was instructed to inform the NHRC about the status of the case. It was reported by Additional IGP that chargesheet had been submitted against 10 perpetrators.

Blind mother lives in cowhouse (Suomoto- 23/19)

Daily Samakal reported that 90 years old Shorbanu got injury in her leg and became disabled. Later on, she also lost her eyesight. She could not move alone. In this situation, her sons kept her in cowhouse. She had been living in cowhouse since 3 years and had been leading inhumane life. Deputy Commissioner of Jhalokathi reported to NHRC that the local administration took Shorbanu to the hospital for treatment and gave her 5000 BDT. UNO of Rajapur, Jhalokathi arranged cataract operation for free of cost. After treatment she was taken to her home. Her sons committed to take care of her. They went for follow-up visit to her home on 12.06.2019 and gave 3000 BDT as financial assistance and 2000

BDT for buying fan and clothes. Besides Shorbanu had been receiving old-age allowance. Her neighbors informed that media report on keeping her in cowhouse was not correct. She was living in her husband's room by her own wish. But it was damaged and needed to be repaired.

Husband ran away leaving wife and children in bus stand in an acute cold weather (Suo moto Dha 02/21)

On 29.01.2021 Daily Naya Diganta reported that in an acute cold weather husband fled leaving his wife and children in a bus stand. In the report it was mentioned that the victim had a 6-month-old baby and a 4 years old baby. Three of them were sitting in a bus stand. The husband left the wife and his two children alone and fled away. Later on, wife called him but he said that he didn't want to continue conjugal life. UNO of Jamalpur reported to the NHRC that as there was no provision for providing assistance to her under social safety net, victim Rituparna could not get any assistance under social safety net program. However, Upazilla administration and concerned Union Parishad Chairman gave financial assistance to her for becoming self-dependent.

Discrimination in getting admission in school (Suomoto Dha. 29/21)

NHRC noticed the advertisement on qualification and regulations for getting admission in Mohammadpur Preparatory School. In the advertisement, the school required that the weight of the applicants should be between 13 kg and 21 kg; all teeth should be in good condition; the

student should be mentally and physically fit. These things are contradictory to UN convention on PWDs, article 33(1) of persons with Disability Rights and Protection Act 2013 and National Education policy 2010. Whereas the state has recognized coordinated education rights of PWDs, publicizing the advertisement and discriminatory qualifications are not accepted at all. This can be termed as the violation of the rights of the PWDs.

The school authority reported to the NHRC that the school had been continuing its activities with honesty and integrity. The requirements mentioned in the advertisement were for ensuring proper age of the students. After getting NHRC's letter, they withdrew other requirements. They promised to be aware of the fact in future. The school authority also informed that 25 Special Children were studying at the school. They regretted for their unwished mistake.

Three offspring of one family are chained for 10 years (Suomoto 05/21)

Daily Ittefaq reported that three children of one family were detained for 10 years. They were intellectually disabled. Poor old parents could not take care of them and could not provide food for them. They urged for government's assistance.

NHRC thinks that this case is very inhuman. In what ground the Mental Hospital of Pabna sent them back should be verified.

NHRC sent letter to UNO of Naoga for taking necessary action and inform the

Commission. Accordingly, UNO reported that they found four persons chained in that family and all of them were intellectually disabled. The UNO rescued them and got them admitted into Pabna Mental Hospital. Besides they were given relief from hon'ble Prime Minister's fund. Three of them are getting disability allowance and necessary actions have been taken to provide the allowance for the remaining one.

The body was smashed at the decision of the arbitrator (Suomoto 11/20)

The Kaler Kantha reported on 14 June 2020 that the body was smashed at the decision of the arbitrator. It was reported that Motaleb Ali was giving indecent proposal to a house wife in a village of Pirganj Upazilla, Thakurgaon. As the house wife denied the proposal, Motaleb lodged false complaint against her son and nephew that they stole his mobile. On this allegation, in a village arbitration led by UP Member Jahirul Islam, the two boys faced inhuman torture. The house wife filed case in Police station but no perpetrator had been arrested and they were giving threat to her for withdrawing the case.

NHRC sent letter to the Police Super of Thakurgaon for informing NHRC about the status of the case and arrest the perpetrators. The police super informed NHRC that during investigating the case the IO arrested 01 and 06 no. perpetrators and surrendered them to the court. After investigation, the IO submitted chargesheet against 10 perpetrators to the court. They are working on this case.

Eviction of Ethnic Minorities (Suomoto 12/20)

On 31 August "71 television" reported that 130 families of ethnic minority are living with fear to be evicted due to residential project of Christian Catholic people in Parila Union, Paba Thana, Rajshahi. These families were living in this area for 20 years. Christian authority sold the land to Christian Cooperative Housing Society. The Society published advertisement for selling the land and they were asking high price which was unbearable by the ethnic minorities who were living in that land.

NHRC sent letter to Deputy Commissioner of Rajshahi to take legal action. DC reported that the owner of that land was church authority. Thus, it was not possible to arrange shelter for the ethnic minorities in that land. Government could buy that land and then handed over to these landless people. The mission authority promised that no landless family would be evicted until the matter was resolved in a peaceful way.

Complaint No.- e-file

Dailly Samakal reported on 21 August 2020 that despite being freed on bail, police arrested 90 year old man and surrendered him to Chief Judicial Magistrate Court. NHRC believes that this case is a gross human rights violation. Thus, NHRC sent letter to Public Security Division of Ministry of Home Affairs to investigate the matter and take action. The Ministry informed that ASI (NI) Abu Taher and ASI (NI) Md. Shofiqul Islam arrested the old man out of negligence or carelessness.

Thus, departmental case had been filed against them and one increment had been temporarily postponed for one year.

3.6 Some successful cases on other complaints

Complaint No. Cha. 83 /20

"A" lodged complaint at NHRC that he did his job with honesty and integrity for 30 years. But present Managing Committee suspended him. He appealed to the board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Chhatagram. 42nd Appeal and Arbitration Committee found that the decision of managing committee was not taken in accordance with the rules. Thus, the committee was instructed to restore the job of "A". But the committee did not obey the instruction. As per the request of "A" the UNO also sent letter to the president of the Managing Committee to restore his job.

The committee did not pay any heed to the letter. Thus, he lodged complaint to the NHRC.

NHRC sent letter to the Managing Committee to implement the instruction given by the Education board and Upazilla administration. The committee reported that Mr. "A" joined the school and the Committee was arranging to pay his dues. Mr. "A" expressed satisfaction after getting his job back.

Complaint No. Cha 29/21.

Complainant 'A' lodged complaint that he had not got freedom fighter certificate for her father. He mentioned that his father was martyr fighter.

Despite the fact, his father did not get any recognition and certificate. NHRC sent letter to Senior Secretary of Ministry of Defense to verify the matter and arrange for the recognition if true. The ministry informed that the complaint found to be true and they recommended for providing certificate for the complainant's father. NHRC instructed the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs to take action accordingly and inform Commission.

Complaint No. Khu 21/21

"B" lodged Complaint that he was employed in Rural Reconstruction Foundation as Regional Manager. His higher authority told him not to sign in attendance sheet and movement register. The company dismissed him later on. After NHRC's intervention, he got his education certificates, laptop and security money.

Complaint No. 115 /19

'A' lodged complaint that his father "B" filed case in Vested Property Tribunal, Thakurgaon to release his father's "ক"/"ka" scheduled property. The tribunal instructed Deputy Commissioner, Thakurgaon accordingly. Government party appealed against the instruction but it was dismissed. But the property was not released. NHRC sent letter to Deputy Commissioner of Thakurgaon to take legal action and inform the commission. The DC reported that AC (land) was instructed to take action for releasing the property. Complainant expressed gratitude to the NHRC for getting remedy.

Complaint No - Dha 53/20

Ms. Rabeya (Pseudonym) lodged complaint that her drug addicted husband tortured her and he did not give any money for her maintenance. He tortured her after being provoked by her mother-in-law, sister in-law and brother-in-law. They also gave threat to Kill her. The complainant was an official of Sonali Bank. Due to domestic violence, she was suffering in her workplace too. Despite filing FIR, she could not get any remedy. NHRC's settlement bench arranged for hearing and mediated between them. They are now peacefully living.

Complaint No. - Dha - 143/20

Ms. Rosy (Pseudonym) lodged complaint that after her husband's death, her brother and sister-in-laws took away their furniture's and tried to evict her from her husband's home. Being failed, they disconnected the electricity and water connection. When her husband was alive, husband's siblings distributed their 6 storey building among themselves. She built a house in the top floor with her husband's money. As per the instruction of NHRC, DNCC verified and found that there was no electricity connection in her home. NHRC mediation bench arranged for hearing between the parties and concerned officials of DESCO and the electricity connection was restored.

Complaint No. - Dha - 157/21

Ms. Fatema (pseudonym) lodged complaint that she was tortured by her husband and people of her in-laws. Her husband took dowry from her father and was demanding for more money.

NHRC mediation bench mediated between them.

Complaint No. Dha – 49/19

Complainant 'A' lodged complaint that they wanted to enlist Mirzapur Tasauf Madrasa in waqf Estate in 2014. But it was not enlisted. They communicated with the concerned authorities many times but did not get any response. In response to the letter sent by the NHRC, the waqf administration informed that the Madrasa had been enlisted.

Complaint No. - Dha - 60/20

'A' Complained that 15 employees were dismissed from their job and still they had not got their dues in Olympia Bakery and confectionary ltd. They all are leading miserable lives. In response to the letter from NHRC, Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishment informed that they inspected the factory of that company and the Manager of that company cooperated during inspection. He showed the letter of agreements and other necessary documents related to the dues of 15 dismissed employees. Mr. 'A' informed NHRC that the company had paid their dues.

Complaint No. Dha - 89/21

Md. Shoriful Islam, Head of Migration Program, Brac lodged complaint that a recruiting agency M/S. Golam Rabbi International sent Moriam Akter to Mauritius in the name of giving her a work as Garments operator. They gave her job at Fire Mount Textile. Canteen Director of that Textile took her to the home of the owner Anil Koli and he along with Anil Koli raped her. They

took video of that incidence and threatened her to make it viral. By giving this threat they raped her many times and as a result, Moriam became pregnant. The rapists took her to a hospital and did abortion. Later on, they sent back Moriam to Bangladesh and took her father for working there. 03 days after returning, Moriam tried to commit suicide and her sister rescued her. Later on, Moriam lodged complaint in the Ministry of Expatriates welfare and Employment. For that reason, the perpetrators were giving threat to her father. Then, Moriam lodged complaint in NHRC to take action so that she could get justice and her father could be returned to Bangladesh.

In response to the letter sent by NHRC, the High Commission of Bangladesh to Mauritius informed the NHRC that Moriam's father returned to Bangladesh.

Complaint No- Dha- 52/21

Mr. A complained that the Kaler Kantho Newspaper suddenly dismissed him from job without paying dues. In this situation, he sought NHRC's intervention for getting dues and compensation. Later on, he informed that the newspaper paid his dues.

Complaint No- Dha- 33/21

Ms. 'R' complained that she worked in Hopelane 03 Ltd., Old EPZ, Dhaka. Another co-worker Azad Kabir tried to sexually abuse her. Being failed, he regularly misbehaved with her and tried to defame her by proving that she was thief and stole things from her workplace. Azad Kabir beater her and

she got serious injury in her head. She lodged complaint in Ashulia Thana but did not get any justice. In response to NHRC's letter, UNO of Savar informed that the victim was provided with 20000 BDT as compensation from the company and the matter was mediated.

Complaint No- Dha- 132/21

On behalf of Ms. 'A', B lodged complaint at NHRC that, A's husband left her and her two children. A was Hindu but after marriage, she became Muslim. But now her husband left her and doesn't maintain any communication nor he gives her any maintenance. In response to the letter sent by NHRC, Upazilla Social Service office of Savar reported that, the victim had been provided with some allowance under social safety net program. Also, she was given some money from Upazilla Social Welfare Parishad.

Complaint No- 56/19

Bangladesh Horijon Human Rights Foundation, Mymensingh complained that the Horijon community had been staying at Lalkuthi, Darbar Sharif, Shombhuganj, Mymensingh for many years. But, a few days ago, roads authority gave notice to go away from this land. The homeless and landless Horijon Community wanted to be rehabilitated before eviction. For this, they sought help from the NHRC.

In response to the letter sent by NHRC, the Deputy Commission of Mymensingh informed that rehabilitation process had begun and will be completed soon.

Complaint No- 5/20

Mr. A complained that he worked at FA

& MIS wing of Bangladesh Statistics Bureau. After retirement, he applied for getting pension and other retirement benefits. Unfortunately, he had not got pension and 2 years have already been passed.

In response to the letter from NHRC, the Statistics and Information Management Department informed that they had resolved the matter and started giving pension to Mr. A.

Complaint No- 22/19

'B' complained that he sent his sister to Saudi Arab for financial needs. But she became victim of torture there and 'B' could not even be able to communicate with his sister. He sought NHRC's interaction for getting his sister back with all dues and salary.

In response to the letter sent from NHRC, the Ministry of Overseas Welfare and Employment informed that the victim had returned to Bangladesh.

Complaint No- 83/19

BLAST drew attention of the NHRC on the news report published in the newspaper "Jugantor" titled "Head Mistress cut hair". In that report, it was mentioned that 13 students did not tie their hair properly and for this reason, the Head Mistress cut their hair.

The parents asked about the matter to the teachers but the teachers misbehaved with them.

In response to the letter sent from NHRC, Deputy Commissioner of Shariatpur informed that departmental case had been lodged against the teacher and she was reprimanded.

Complaint No- 11/19

'A' lodged complaint that BCSIR authority dismissed him for no reason. Later on, Members Finance & Chairman Grievance Committee BCSIR Dhaka restored his job. He did not withdraw his money from CP Fund for the hope of regaining the job. Still he could not get his money.

In response to the letter from NHRC, BCSIR authority informed that they had paid his money saved in CP fund.

Complaint No- Dha. 77/19

BLAST drew attention to the NHRC on the newspaper report on "Childhood of 03 Teenagers bound in iron chains". published in Daily Ittefaq Online. According to the report, Madrasa Super Arifullah used to chain the 03 students 24 hours.

In response to the letter from NHRC, UNO of Kaliganj, Gazipur reported that the allegation against Madrasa Super was proved true. Accordingly following steps were taken:

- (1) 03 chained students made free and handed over to their guardians.
- (2) Madrasa Super was suspended for 03 months immediately.
- (3) Upazilla Social Service officer, Kaliganj, Gazipur, UP Chairman and Member were given responsibility to monitor the situation of all the Madrasa of that area so that no such incidence occur in future and no anti-state activism could be held.

3.7 Media Monitoring report on human rights violations:

NHRC officials monitor 16 daily newspapers and prepare reports on human rights violation based on the media report.

(Human Rights Violations Incidences in 2021)

SL.	Type of human rights violation	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
1	Murder	129	114	175	234	193	38	42	144	63	71	85	61	1349
2	Rape	50	38	65	104	45	42	51	58	33	50	23	39	598
3	Child Rape	27	13	36	83	40	26	15	40	21	19	28	13	361
4	Violence against Women	34	22	61	148	90	64	50	73	49	31	23	21	666
5	Child Murder	24	10	18	30	44	10	04	21	11	06	11	15	204
6	Child Torture	09	08	16	26	30	07	06	07	12	08	05	12	146
7	Complaint against LEAs	10	01	05	21	16	15	09	33	13	09	16	03	151
8	Corporal Punishment	0	0	08	03	0	0	0	01	01	0	03	0	16
9	Disappearance	12	04	10	18	24	14	08	19	25	17	06	05	162
10	Kidnapping	13	05	16	32	24	26	13	29	13	19	06	21	217
11	Death of Labour	10	04	15	25	11	07	62	08	10	02	05	03	162
12	Extrajudicial Killing	0	04	12	02	02	01	02	04	04	02	08	06	47
13	Acid Attack	01	02	03	0	0	02	01	02	06	03	01	01	22

Source: Prothom Alo, Daily Star, Ittefaq, Dhaka Tribune, Kaler Kantha, Samakal, Bangladesh Protidin, bdnews24, Daily Sangbad, Jugantor, Janakantha, New Age, Daily Observer, Bhorer Kagoj, Independent, Naya Diganta (Online Version)

3.8 Details of the complaints sought for the Home Ministry report

Details of the complaints sought for the Home Ministry report during present commission's tenure: Pending & Disposed (Complaints received from Sept. 2019 till December 2021)

SL	Details	Dhaka & Mymensingh Division	Chattogram & Sylhet Division	Khulna & Barisal Division	Rajshahi & Rangpur Division	Total
1	Number of Complaints sent to IGP for reports after NHRC sent them to Public Security Division of MOHA	07	03	09	02	21
2	Number of Complaints of which Commission received no response	03	1	1	0	05
3	Number of Complaints registered for receiving satisfactory reports	08	03	09	2	22
4	Number of Complaints resent for not receiving satisfactory reports	02	0	01	4	07
	Total Number of Complaints	20	07	20	8	55

- Present Commission sought reports for 55 complaints (including 19 of 2021). Reports came for 29 complaints. Among them 22 Complaints registered for receiving satisfactory reports. Remaining 07 Complaints resent for not receiving satisfactory reports.
- 33 complaints are pending for reports (see sl. 01, 02 & 04).
- 21 Complaints sent to IGP for reports after NHRC sent them to Public Security Division of MOHA.

Details of the complaints sought for the Home Ministry report during previous commission's tenure: Pending & Disposed (Complaints lodged from 2012 till Sept. 2019)

Sl.	Details	Dhaka & Mymensingh Division	Chattogram & Sylhet Division	Khulna & Barisal Division	Rajshahi & Rangpur Division	Total
1	Number of Complaints sent to IGP for reports after NHRC sent them to Public Security Division of MOHA	07	06	02	02	17
2	Number of Complaints of which Commission received no response	08	0	0	0	08
3	Number of Complaints registered for receiving satisfactory reports	17	11	11	4	43
4	Number of Complaints resent for not receiving satisfactory reports	8	3	0	4	15
5	Number of Complaints registered for Withdrawal of Complaint by Complainant, getting remedy, Ongoing case following complaints and other reasons	0	0	0	0	0
	Total Number of Complaints	40	20	13	10	83

- 43 complaints are registered among 83 (See sl. 03 & 05)
- 40 complaints are pending for reports (see sl. 01, 02 & 04). In terms of 08 complaints of sl. 02 the Commission didn't get any response despite giving reminder again and again.

3.9 Bench Evaluation

Details of Full Bench, Bench 01, Bench 02 and Mediation Bench in 2020

Statistics of Full Bench-2021

Full Bench : Presided by hon'ble Chairman and incorporates all Members

Total Meeting	Total Complaints	Report/Comment Sought	Sent to Mediation Bench	Registered in Primary Stage	Registered for getting report/opinion	Total disposed in bench	Pending
4	42	15	0	0	13	13	29

Statistics of Bench 01

(Dhaka, Mymensingh, Rajshahi & Rangpur Division)

Bench 01: 03 Members Bench presided by hon'ble Chairman

Times	New Complaints	Previous Pending Complaints (including suomoto)	Total Complaints (including suomoto)	Report/comment Sought	Sent to Full Bench	Sent to Mediation Bench	Registered in Primary Stage	Registered for getting report/opinion Total disposed in bench	Total disposed in bench	Pending	Remarks
39	406	487	893	272	40	15	215	348	563	330	- Bench conducted hearing of 02 complaints in response of both parties, witness and lawyers - Total 7,50,000 BDT compensation has been ensured in 02 complaints

Statistics of Bench 02

(Chattogram, Sylhet, Khulna & Barisal Division)

Bench 02- 03 Member Bench presided by hon'ble Full Time Member

Total Meeting	New Complaints	Previous Pending Complaints (including suomoto)	Total Complaints (including suomoto)	Report/comment Sought	Sent to Full Bench	Sent to Mediation Bench	Registered in Primary Stage	Registered for getting report/opinion	Total disposed in bench	Pending
30	282	287	569	168	2	5 (including part of a 01 file ¹)	201	195	396	173

- Complaints sent to Full Bench and Mediation Bench are counted as pending in Bench 02.
- 01 complaint of Khulna/Barishal division has been placed before Full Bench directly.

¹ Report sought for main part of 01 file of Chattogram/Sylhet division and a part of that file was sent to Mediation bench.

Statistics of Mediation Bench

Total Meeting	Previous Pending Complaints	Received Complaints	Total Complaints	Disposed after hearing	Pending	Remarks
13	06	20	26	17	08	01 file is returned to concerned bench

3.10 Ensuring Compensation

Complaint No- Ra- 57/20

'A' complained that he worked under sub-contractor of Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board. According to the order of the authority, he was working to sort out electricity line. And during work, he was electrified and had to cut his two legs and right hand. He complained that indifferent attitude of the authority and devaluation of the staff caused the accident. The contractor company did not bear any treatment cost for him. Even they did not pay his salary.

In response to the letter sent from NHRC, the Rural Electrification Board reported that according to the NHRC's instruction they have enacted a guideline to provide compensation to such victims. In that guideline it is mentioned that injured person who gets injury by electrical accident will get money for medical treatment 10 lac taka will be given to the persons who die of electrical accident and 5 lac taka will be given to the person who

become disable. Accordingly, the contractor company had given 5 lac taka to Mr. A as compensation and one lac taka as aid.

Complaint No- 405/13

Mr. Forkan, coordinator of Children's Charity Bangladesh Foundation drew attention of NHRC to the newspaper report on "Domestic help tortured" published in the Daily Star. It was reported that, police rescued tortured Khadiza from Mirpur and admitted her in Dhaka Medical College Hospital. The case had been discussed in Full-Bench of NHRC and as per the decision of the bench NHRC sent letter to the Public Security Division for ensuring justice and compensation for Khadiza. The Public Security Division informed that as per NHRC's recommendation the Division has generated new fund code for the first time for giving compensation to the victims and they had provided 50,000 BDT to Khadiza as financial assistance.

Complaint No- Dha- 80/21

Mr. 'A' Complained that the home in which he resided had the electricity connection and the connection located in such a way that any time there might cause accident. He informed this to the house owner and manager but they were reluctant to take any action. As a result, his son, 11 years old child got electric shock from that dangerous

electricity line and got serious injury. The child became disabled. The home owner gave 12000 BDT only for treatment purpose as per instruction from NHRC, DPDC investigated the matter and found that the electricity connection was so close to that home that it was in a very risky position. They provided 1,50,000 BDT as compensation to the victim.



ঢাকার মিরপুরে প্রায় ৯ বছর আগে নির্যাতনের শিকার হয়েও পুলিশের কাছ থেকে কোনো প্রতিকার পায়নি শিশু গৃহকর্মী খাদিজা। স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয় থেকে এখন তাকে ক্ষতিপূরণ দেওয়া হচ্ছে। বিষয়টি নিশ্চিত করেছেন জাতীয় মানবাধিকার কমিশনের চেয়ারম্যান নাছিমা বেগম।

তিনি সমকালকে জানান, জাতীয় মানবাধিকার কমিশনের এটা বড় অর্জন। এটি প্রথম অর্জন। মানবাধিকার ৫০ হাজার টাকা সুপারিশ করেছিল। স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয় এখন তা দিচ্ছে।

Sylhet, Sunamganj and Mymensingh Jail visit led by hon'ble Chairman



Visit to Sylhet Jail

NHRC delegation led by the Hon'ble Chairman inspected central jails of Sylhet, Sunamganj and Mymensingh and sent recommendations to the government. As per the recommendations the Social Service Division of Ministry of Home Affairs had taken a number of initiatives including sending the name list of the prisoners who had crossed the punishment period to the ministry; introducing mobile phones for communication purpose in these jails; sending letter to jail authority for filing up the vacant posts and arranging Dope Test for the prisoners.



Visit to Sunamganj Jail

NHRC's action on fire on Ovijan-10 launch

The National Human Rights Commission expressed deep condolences on the death of 40 persons and injury of many in fire at Ovijan-10 launch in Sugandha river, Jhalokathi. NHRCB Chairman and Full Time Member went to Sheikh Hasina Burn Unit to see the people burned by fire. Commission believes that it is important to investigate the reason of fire.

It is also important to investigate for whose carelessness this fire was caused. Creating awareness on preventing smoking in public spaces and transport and strengthening fire fighting system in transport are also needed. Commission believes that those who are responsible for this fire incidence should be brought to justice and given exemplary punishment. NHRC called on relevant authorities to provide sufficient compensation to the families of the dead persons.



NHRC Chairman & Full Time Member visited Sheikh Hasina Burn Unit to see the injured persons.

Some Remarkable Activities of NHRC in 2021

4.1 Formation of National Inquiry Committee for the first time in NHRC's history



Online meeting between NHRCB, Asia Pacific Forum and NHRC, Samoa

On the 90th Commission Meeting NHRC decided to form a Committee on National Inquiry to identify ways to combat violence against women and children. This committee will submit a report with recommendations on the basis of the data and information collected. The committee has started its activities on January 2021. It has collected information from the organization, non-governmental organization or and civil society Organization. As per the section 12 of the NHRC Act 2009, the key functions of NHRC is to increase awareness on

human rights, human rights education, training, research, investigation etc.

Rape is one of the worst form of human rights violation. Women and children are the main victims of rape. According to the researchers, social degradation and the culture of discrimination against women are the main reasons of rape. Amid the covid-19 the incidences of violence against women and children has been seen. The committee has collected information from government officials, non-government organizations, and civil society



Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury MP, Hon'ble Speaker of Bangladesh Parliament attended discussion on way forward to prevent VAW and Rape

representatives of 22 districts and 22 upazillas.

Since 25 February till 31 December 2021 total 36 consultations were held. Among that 2 meetings were organized with the committee on prevention of violence against women and children. 04 public hearings were held in Feni, Gopalganj, Mymensingh and Narayanganj. In these public hearings, representatives from all sectors including Madrasa teachers, marriage registrars, Imams participated. 16 Focused Group Discussions and interview of 23 key informants had been done.

In the consultations with the Deputy Commissioners, Police Supers and Civil Surgeons of 64 districts, the Divisional Commissioners, DIGS of Bangladesh Police and Divisional Directors of Health Divisions were present as Special Guests.

In-depth interview of 20 convicted rapists with the aim of understanding their psychology were taken from Keraniganj, Kashimpur, Comilla and Mymensingh jails. Information was collected from 373 victims of violence from One-stop Crisis Center of Dhaka, Rajshahi, Khulna Medical College Hospitals. Interview of women and children rape victims also was taken from the OCC of public hospitals through 32 clinical psychologists of Regional Trauma Counselling Center. Mixed methods were used in this research. Both qualitative and quantitative methods were used.

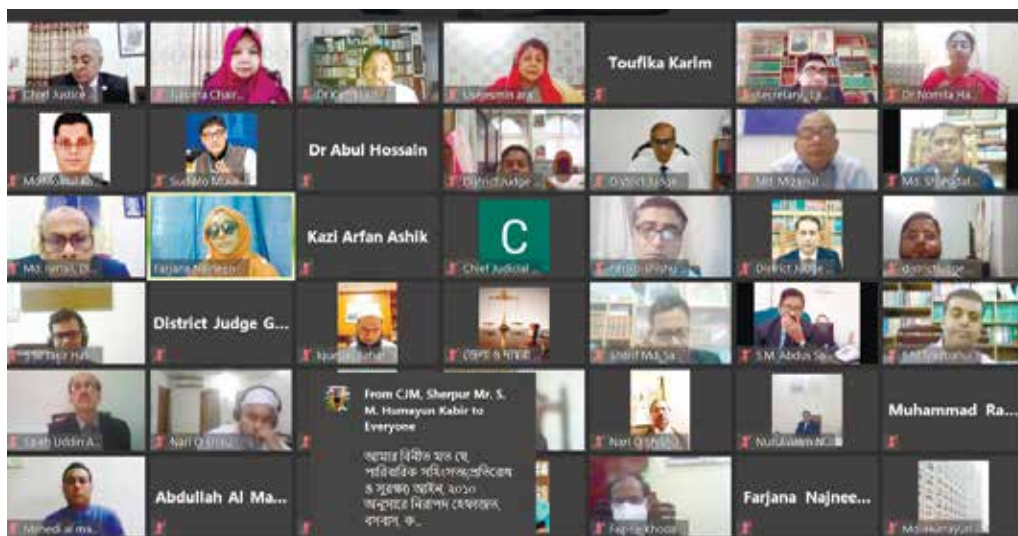
On 19 June 2021, the committee arranged virtual consultation with learned Judges of 64 districts. In that consultation 249 participants including Judges of Tribunal on the prevention of violence against women and children, Chief Judicial



NHRC Chairman, Member and Hon'ble Members of Parliament in discussion on way forward to prevent VAW and Rape

Magistrate/Chief Metropolitan Magistrate participated. The then Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain was present as the Chief Guest. NHRC Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc, presided over the meeting Dr, Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Full-Time Member of NHRC, Md Moinul Kabir, Secretary

of Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division, Md. Golam Sarwar, Secretary, Law and Justice Division were present as the Special Guests. Sudipto Mukerjee, UNDP Resident Representative was present as Guest of Honour.



Virtual discussion on way forward to prevent VAW and Rape

Prize Giving ceremony of the Essay competition on “liberation war, liberty and humane values” and quiz competition 2021; launching of human rights scholarship and online human rights training course; handing over Sexual Harassment Prevention and Protection Act 2021.



NHRC chairman hands over the draft sexual Harassment Prevention and Protection Act 2021

The NHRCB arranged a program on 21 December 2021 in Lakeshore Hotel with the aim of Prize Giving ceremony of the Essay competition on “liberation war, liberty and humane values” and quiz competition 2021, launching of human rights scholarship and online human rights training course. On the same occasion NHRC submitted the draft of the Sexual Harassment (Prevention and Protection) Act 2021.

Mr. Anisul Hoque, Hon’ble Minister, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs graced the program as the Chief Guest. Mr. Mohibul Hasan Chowdhury, Hon’ble Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education graced the program as Special Guest. NHRCB Chairman

Nasima Begum, ndc presided over the program. Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Full Time Member of NHRCB delivered the welcome speech. Honorary Member of NHRCB Towfika Karim and the Members of NHRCB Thematic Committees were present at the program. NHRCB Secretary Narayan Chandra Sarkar gave vote of thanks.

In the beginning, the hon’ble Chief Guest distributed prizes to the winners of essay and quiz competition. In second round of the program, NHRCB Chairman handed over the draft Sexual Harassment (Prevention and Protection) Act to the hon’ble Minister. In the third round, he launched online human rights course.



Winners with the Guests in the prize giving ceremony of essay and quiz competition

Chief Guest Anisul Hoque said, “All the elements of human rights violation were present in cruelty of Pakistan during our liberation war in 1971. In 1975, we again saw human rights violation. With a view to promote and protect human rights present government formed the National Human Rights Commission in 2009. We need to strengthen this Commission. We are role model of development. We need to promote human rights bearing this into mind. We all are respectful towards freedom of speech and protection of human rights. NHRCB’s initiative of essay competition is a praiseworthy initiative”.

Special Guest Mohibul Hasan Chowdhury said, “Bangabandhu fought for establishing human rights all through his life. This essay competition is the way to raise awareness on human rights. Our

hon’ble Prime Minister is being praised worldwide for protecting human rights. We are working for protecting the rights of marginalized people and also promoting gender equality. Present government has undertaken responsibility of the people of this country and has become less dependent on donation”.

NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc said, “Commission believes that hon’ble Minister will finalize the draft Sexual Harassment (Prevention and Protection) Act 2021. Mentioning the criticisms about NHRCB she said’ “Does the work on human rights only include killings and disappearances? Are the women’s rights, PWDs rights, right to work etc. not the human rights? NHRC Act clearly mentions that the Commission can take steps if human rights violation occurs in organizations or against any person. NHRC can not only work on human rights violation

by Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) but also by individual or organization. There are criticisms that we are doing the job of Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Ministry of Social Welfare. I ask you, then isn't the Ministry of Home Affairs there to look after the disappearance and murder cases? So, it is not prudent to criticize just for doing criticism. There should be constructive criticism. We are taking steps against human rights violation of all including LEAs. We are already getting prompt response from government ministries including MOHA. I urge all concerned authorities for sending reports as asked by the NHRCB immediately”.

Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed made welcome remarks at the beginning. He said, “we expect that our future generation will grow up with clean mindset. Our Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman has given us the Constitution with the

strong commitment of maintaining our independence. The young generation will build our country following this Constitution”. Md Khalilur Rahman, Divisional Commissioner of Dhaka, Dr. Md. Humayun Kabir, Divisional Commissioner of Rajshahi, Md. Kamrul Hasan, ndc, Divisional Commissioner of Chittagong and Md. Monjurul Hafiz, Deputy Commissioner of Chapainababganj spoke at the event. Among the prize winners, Arpa Guha from Group A and Samina Rahman from Group B spoke at the event.

The essay and quiz competition arranged on the occasion of 50 years celebration of our independence with the aim of making the students from root to center aware of human rights. Students from class 9-12 participated spontaneously in this program. Novelist Selina Hossain, writer Anisul Hoque and former Director of Children Academy Anzir Liton were the Judges.



Judges of the competition with hon'ble Chief Guest, NHRC Chairman
Full Time Member and Secretary



Judges and participants of group-A

347 students were selected by NHRC who got more than 70 number were selected by NHRCB. And they attended quiz competition online. 50 students from group A and 50 students from group B finally became winners.

NHRC believes that selected 347 students will work as Human Rights Defender and selected 100 students will work as Human Rights Ambassador. These 100 winners will

be provided with 2000 BDT as scholarship for the term of 02 years. Among these 347 students, 10 students from Dhaka received Medal from hon'ble Chief Guest and remaining 337 winners received Medal from the Divisional Commissioners of their divisions.

In quiz competition, 2 separate committees led by NHRCB Secretary and Director were formed.



Judges and Participant of group-B

4.2 Seminar



Hon'ble President speaks at the Human Rights Day Program

Human Rights Day 2021 celebration

On 10 December 2021 NHRCB observed the Human Rights Day. Hon'ble President of People's Republic of Bangladesh graced the program as the Chief Guest. He said, "NHRCB is the important institution for protecting human rights." He called on the NHRCB to play more proactive role in protecting human rights of all including women, children PWDs, Dalit, transgender and ethnic minority people.



Rally on human rights day was led by NHRC Chairman, participated by Full Time Member, Members and people of all sectors



All guests and participants committed to reduce discrimination, increase equity and protect human rights

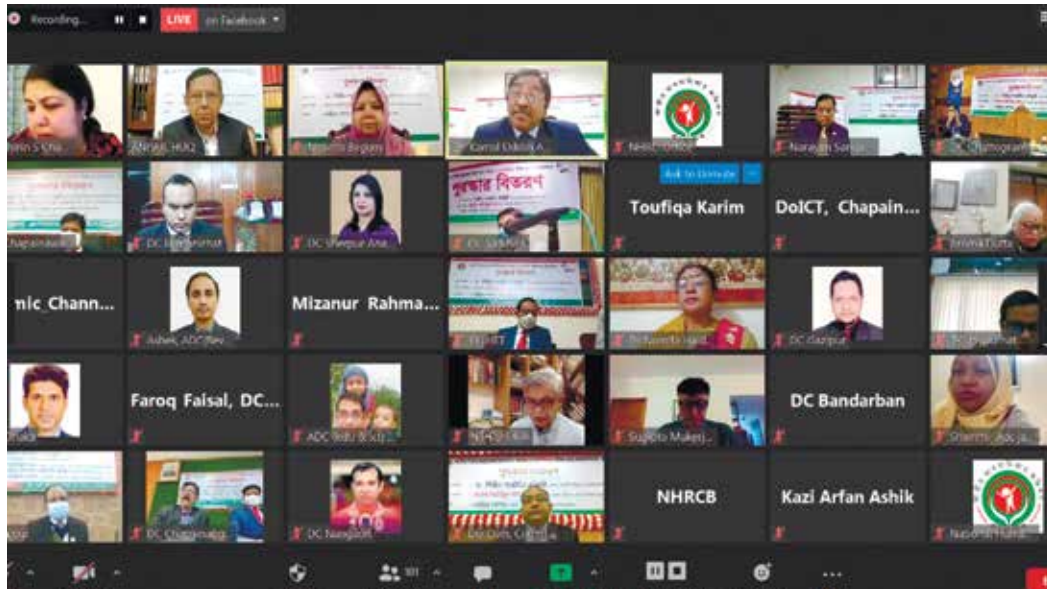


All guests and participants committed to reduce discrimination, increase equity and protect human rights

Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Md. Moinul Kabir, Secretary, Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division and Sudipto Mukerjee, Resident Representative, UNDP spoke at the event as Special Guests. NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc presided over the event. NHRCB Full

Time Member Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed delivered welcome speech. NHRCB Members Jesmin Ara Begum, Mizanur Rahman Khan, NHRCB Secretary Narayan Chandra Sarkar and representatives from government, non-government organizations and people from all walks of life participated at the program.

Prize Giving Ceremony of Essay and Quiz Competition 2020



Winners and officials of district administration were present at prize giving ceremony of essay and quiz competition 2020

This year the prize giving ceremony titled “Bangabandhu and Human Rights” 2020 was held on 30 January 2021. Hon’ble Speaker of Bangladesh Parliament Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury graced the program as the Chief Guest. Hon’ble Minister, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs graced the program as the Special Guest. NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc presided over the program. NHRCB Full Time Member Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed also spoke at the event. NHRCB organized the event on the occasion of birth centenary of our Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Students from class 09-12 participated at the

competition online due to covid situation. NHRCB publicized a documentary in electronic media and advertisement in print media. NHRCB Chairman held meeting with Divisional Commissioners time and again and gave them instructions for organizing the program.

More than 52000 students participated at the competition. Selected 100 winners took part in online quiz competition. NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc, the then DG of Bangla Academy late Habibullah Siraji, Novelist Selina Hossain, writer Anisul Hoque and NHRCB Secretary Narayan Chandra Sarkar played the role of judges in that competition.

Students held dialogue with NHRCB Chairman

Students of University Laboratory School under the University of Dhaka held dialogue with NHRCB Chairman on 14th November 2021. Hon'ble Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc participated in the dialogue and answered the questions raised by the students. NHRCB and HRP-UNDP with support from Centre for Men and Masculinities Studies have conducted “Bravemen Campaign” in more than hundred schools in Bangladesh. This dialogue was a part of that initiative. Also as a part of this, online human rights course have been launched. This course is intended for school students and the dialogue was organized for ensuring their opportunity to ask

question on human rights.

Principal of ULAB School Selina Akter, Adviser of CMMS and Professor of Dept. of Women and Gender Studies Dr. Syed Shaikh Imtiaz and HRP-UNDP Gender Expert Ms. Bithika Hasan attended the dialogue.

Students wanted to Know about the rights of street children, hijra, women and all other marginalized people. NHRCB Chairman answered their questions and discussed the initiatives taken by NHRCB, government and non-government organizations.

She urged the students make efforts to protect their own rights along with



NHRC Chairman giving answer to the questions on human rights

protecting the rights of others. She called upon them not to be misguided by the temptation of social medias like tiktok and be aware of human trafficking. She requested them not to misuse technologies and to be engaged

in educational and social activities. She told that she would work to remove the obstacles that the students usually face during doing any good work. She also called upon them to work as Human Rights Ambassador.



Students present in the dialogue

Experience Sharing on SDG 16



Participants in the meeting on Experience Sharing on SDG 16

NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc mentioned that it was possible to aware people from root to center through community radio. NHRCB and Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC) organized the discussion on experience sharing on SDG-16 in the conference room of NHRCB with support from Switzerland Embassy in Dhaka.

NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc attended the program as the Chief Guest. She also mentioned that there are lack of awareness on human rights among most of the people in our country. For this reason, they could not understand human rights violation. So, human rights education is important for all. She said, “Human rights education can be disseminated through community radio.”

Seminar in Sylhet and Sunamganj

As part of NHRC’s awareness raising initiative, two seminars on human rights were held in Sylhet and Sunamganj. NHRCB and District Administration jointly organized these seminars. The seminars were led by NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum,

ndc. NHRCB Member Jesmin Ara Begum and officials were present at the seminars. From local administration Deputy Commissioner, Police Super and Civil Surgeon, senior officials of administration, Upazilla Chairman, UNO, OC of local thana,



Seminar in Sylhet

representatives of Civil society also were present at the seminars. In the seminars presentation on basic understanding and implementation of human rights were given. Pictorial

demonstration of UDHR was also presented by NHRC delegations. The roles and functions of NHRCB was also discussed.



Seminar in Sunamganj

4.3 Meetings of Thematic Committees: Meeting of Thematic Committee on the Rights of Elderly people



Members of the Thematic Committee on the Rights of Elderly people

This meeting was held on 04 April 2021 virtually. NHRCB Chairman and Chair of this committee presided over the meeting. Discussion was focused on the health rights of elderly people during Covid- 19 pandemic. Besides, the members of the committee discussed about enactment of Elderly People's Development Foundation Bill, Parents Maintenance Act 2013, National policy on Elderly People. NHRCB Chairman said that, coordination between government and non-government organizations was needed for improving the condition of elderly people. She also mentioned that the Commission would send recommendations from this committee in this regard. Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman, Chairman of PKSF and President of Probin Moncho, Freedom Fighter Abdul Mannan. Major Gen. Jibon Kanai Das, Country Director, Sir William Beverage Foundation, Dr. A.S.M. Atikur Rahman, Professor of Institute of Social Welfare and Research, University of Dhaka, Professor of Dept. of Culture of University of Dhaka. Dr. Asim Sarkar and NHRCB Member Ching Kew Roaza virtually attended the meeting. Following

decisions were made-

01. The Commission will send recommendations to concerned authority to scour the Parents Maintenance Act 2013.
02. NHRCB will send letter to concerned authority to take steps to approve the rules of Parents Maintenance Act 2013.
03. NHRCB will send letter to Cabinet Division to take action for giving special assistance to elderly people specially to those who are old women, transgender, PWDs, sex workers, etc. The commission will also send letter to Cabinet Division for instructing Union/ward level for taking care of childless old people.
04. Letter will be sent to Ministry of Social Welfare to introduce universal old-age insurance for elderly population.
05. Letter will be sent to Health Service Division to incorporate separate ward for elderly people and ensuring service for old people in public community clinic.

Meeting on Climate Change, Environment and Disaster Management



Members of Thematic Committee on Climate Change, Environment and Disaster Management

Meeting of this committee was held on 31 May 2021 virtually. Discussion was held on Climate Risk Insurance, impact of climate change on agriculture and industrial institutions, incorporating climate change issue in Election Manifesto, displacement due to river bank erosion and slum dwellers problems.

Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Full Time Member and Chair of this committee presided over the meeting. He presented a summary of the agenda. He mentioned that it was important to prepare training manual for journalists who were working against environment pollution. Also, he mentioned that information on climate change should be included in curriculum. Discussion was held on Buriganga river pollution, air pollution, formation of store house in

residential areas etc.

NHRCB Members Advocate Towfika Karim, Jesmin Ara Begum, Additional Secretary of Ministry of Environment, Forest and climate change Md. Mizanur Hoque Chowdhury, Executive Director of Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies Dr. Atique Rahman, Chairman of Prokriti O Jibon Foundation Mukit Mojumder Babu, Director of PKSF Fazle Rabbi Sadek Ahmed, Chairman of Proibesh Bachao Andolon Abu Naser Khan, National Program Coordinator of HRP-UNDP Taslima Islam attended the meeting.

A concept paper had been drafted and the paper was presented in the Commission meeting. As per the decision of Commission meeting following recommendations were sent



to the Ministry of Labour and Employment:

(a) Updating National Action Plan 2016 so that –

- (1) All types of vulnerable child labor could be eliminated by 2025 as per government's commitment.
- (2) Refinement of the list of vulnerable child labor could be possible
- (3) Both area wise and sector wise strategies could be made.

(b) Updating information based on the base line survey on child labor conducted nationally.

(c) Building child focused security measures for marginalized families

and rehabilitate rescued children. Protecting rights of child labors in work place. Forming child labor protection fund.

(d) Creating institutional surveillance on Child Labor through amendment of law.

(e) Taking initiative of signing ILO convention- 138 and amendment of labour law.

(f) Proper implementation of child budget.

(g) Building child friendly safety net. For this Coordinated implementation structure may be formed among Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and Ministry of Social Welfare.

(h) Effective implementation of Labour Law 2006 and Children Act 2013.

(i) Taking proper action for achieving SDGs with the aim of eliminating vulnerable child labour. Also taking action for extending time period of achieving SDGs due to Covid situation.

(j) Ensuring accessibility of Child Labors to the education system which would be appropriate as per their age and work experience.

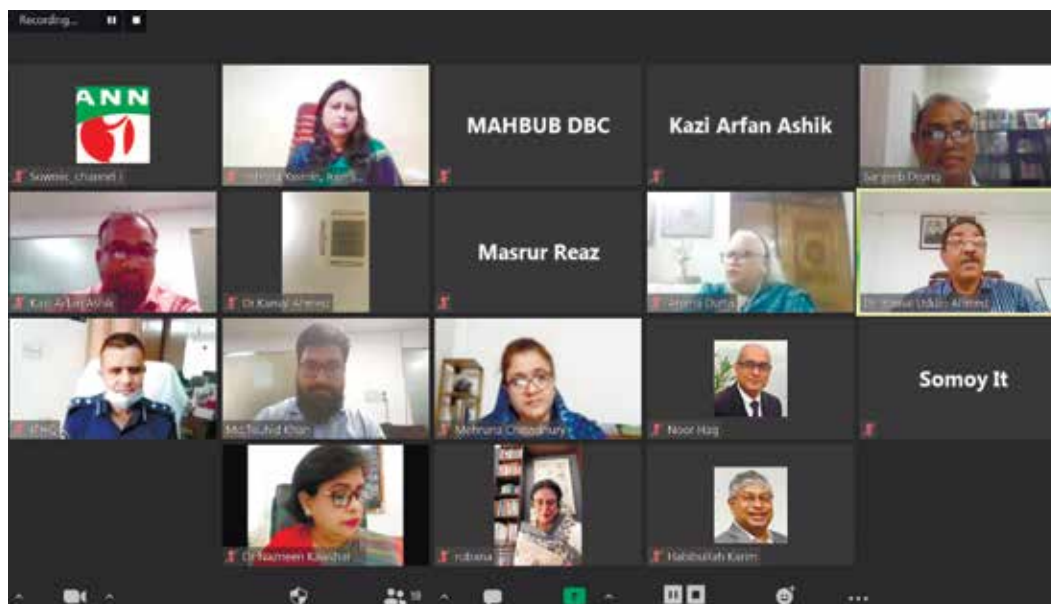
(k) Forming Children Directorate and Child Rights Commission under the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs.

NHRCB urged all stakeholders to take coordinated efforts for implementing these recommendations. NHRCB will–

(a) Continue it's work for taking these steps ahead.

(b) NHRCB is committed to provide legal aid to the child victims of human rights violation.

Meeting of Thematic Committee on Business and Human Rights and Corporate Social Responsibility.



Members of Thematic Committee on Business and Human Rights and Corporate Social Responsibility

Meeting of this committee was held on 15 March 2021. NHRCB Full Time Member and Chair of this committee Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed presided over the meeting. He made a presentation on how the business activities are related with human rights. Aroma Dutta, MP; Dr. Rubana Hoque, President, BGMEA; Sanjeeb Drong, General Secretary, Bangladesh Adibasi Forum, Meheruna Chowdhury, Business and Human Rights Specialist, HRP-UNDP attended the meeting. The highlights of discussions:

- Businesses must be related to human rights and businesses should be aligned with international human rights standards. Labor's welfare should be one of the main goals of business entities. Without this business organizations can't make profits and sustainable development can't be achieved.
- Taking Free, Prior and Informed Consent must be ensured before taking any project that will affect livelihoods of ethnic people.

- National Action Plan on Business & Human Rights should be drafted following a realistic consultative process. In this process those who are experts in corporate sectors; human rights activists and government representatives should be engaged with the process .
- EU Countries are emphasizing on “Practice of Human Rights in Due Diligence” and they have incorporated it in their legislative framework. Thus, we should also take this into consideration so that we can incorporate it in our work plans as per the context of our country.

Second virtual meeting of this committee was held on 17 June 2021. Full Time Member and Chair of this committee presided over the meeting. In the 1st round of this meeting, Bangla translation of UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights was launched in presence of UNDP Resident Representative Mr. Sudipto Mukerjee. A documentary of B+ HR Asia was shown. Business and Human Rights Specialists Harpreet Kaur and Sunjeon Choy from UNDP Regional office, Bangkok Jointly presented an informative concept paper on this issue.

Following issues were discussed in the meeting:

- (a) Impact of Covid 19 on Garments workers.
- (b) Miserable life of tea-workers.
- (c) Shutdown of-06 state owned sugar mills.
- (d) Cheating of insurance companies etc.

Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed told, “due to shut down of 06 state owned sugar mills labors of these mills are living miserable lives. Thus, we need to rethink on how to reform the management of this industry. An effective study is needed in this regard.

Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzam, Chairman, PKSf said, “we need to investigate the human rights violations occurring in agricultural, industrial and health sectors. He also mentioned,” UN Guiding Principle on Human Rights is an international principal. We need to consider our country context when applying it in our country. “CEO of Techno Heaven Company Ltd. said,” fraudulent activities of insurance companies are going on for many years. The Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority should take proper action. Decision was taken to send letter to concerned authorities on this issue.

Meeting of the thematic committee on Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and Autism



Members of Thematic Committee on Persons with Disabilities and Autism

Meeting of this committee was held on 05 August 2021, NHRC Chairman and Chair of this Committee Nasima Begum, ndc presided over the meeting. The members of this committee expressed grave concern on some discriminatory comments about PWDs in a drama telecasted in Channel-i. The actors sought apology for the comments. But the members of the committee said that this type of negative comments about PWDs is a punishable offence according to the section 37(4) of PWDs Rights and Protection Act 2013. Following decisions were made in the meeting:

(a) Sending letter to the concerned authority to ensure the rights of PWDs in all contents of electronic and print media.

(b) Sending letter with recommendations to give priority to

the PWDs for Covid vaccination.

(c) Sending recommendation to government to ensure accessibility of PWDs to all the public places and services by preparing a draft act of accessibility.

Md. Anwar Ullah, Managing Director, Neuro Developmental Disability Protection Trust, Bangladesh; Monsur Ahmed Chowdhury, Member, Disability Council International, A.H.M. Noman Khan, Executive Director, Centre for Disability in Development, Khandker Jahurul Alam, Executive Director, Disability Research and Rehabilitation Association; Ashrafun Nahar Mishty, Executive Director, Women with Disabilities and Development Foundation were present at the meeting.

Other Activities on Protecting rights of PWDs.

On 03 December 2021 the country celebrated 30th International and 23rd National Day of Persons with Disabilities on 04 December 2021, a discussion was held organized by the thematic committee of PWDs. NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc presided over the meeting. Besides, an online meeting on the occasion of world white cane day was organized on 14th October 2021. In that meeting following decisions were made-

- Recommendations were sent to IGP to include information related to the PWDs in all training activities of Bangladesh Police.
- Recommendation sent to Bangladesh Road Transport Authority to include the importance of white cane and its usage in the training activities of drivers and preserving 05 seats for PWDs.
- Replacing the word Persons Physical Disabilities to Persons

Disabilities in all the job circulars as there are 12 types of disabilities mentioned in the PDWs Rights and Protection Act 2013. Letter was sent to the Ministry of Social Welfare in this regard.

- A codified Policy on scribe has been prepared and the draft has been sent to the Ministry of Public Administration, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Social Welfare.
- MOU has been signed between NHRC and Brac on accessibility of PWDs in public places, public transports and information. Survey under this MOU has been conducted in a number of hospitals including Dhaka Medical College and BSMMU Hospitals. Recommendations will be sent to concerned authorities as per the reports of these survey.

Meeting of the Thematic Committee on Providing recommendations on human rights protection related laws, treaties and other international instruments

Meeting of this committee was held on 29 April 2021. NHRCB Chairman and Chair of this Committee Nasima Begum, ndc presided over the meeting. She said that we all noticed that violence against women increased during covid situation. NHRCB had started National Inquiry on this issue. It has been noticed that Bangladesh has made significant achievements in terms of women empowerment. But the violence against women had blurred these achievements. “However, it is a matter of hope that, at present if a woman or girl becomes rape victim, she or her family members lodges case. Media played very crucial

role in this regard” she mentioned. The members of the committee discussed, “Government is committed to end VAW. Article 28(4) stipulates those special measures should be taken in this regard. Right to property is settled as per family Law/Shariah Law in Bangladesh. But women do not get exact portion of their property. We all need to ensure women’s right to property. Now a days, if there is no son in a family, property goes out of that family. Women cannot be dependent on others in present situation. Thus, we need to rethink about the issue and take initiative so that people can give property to their daughters.

Meeting of the Thematic Committee on Migration, Migrant Workers Rights and Anti-trafficking



Members of Thematic Committee on Migration, Migrant Workers Rights and Anti-trafficking

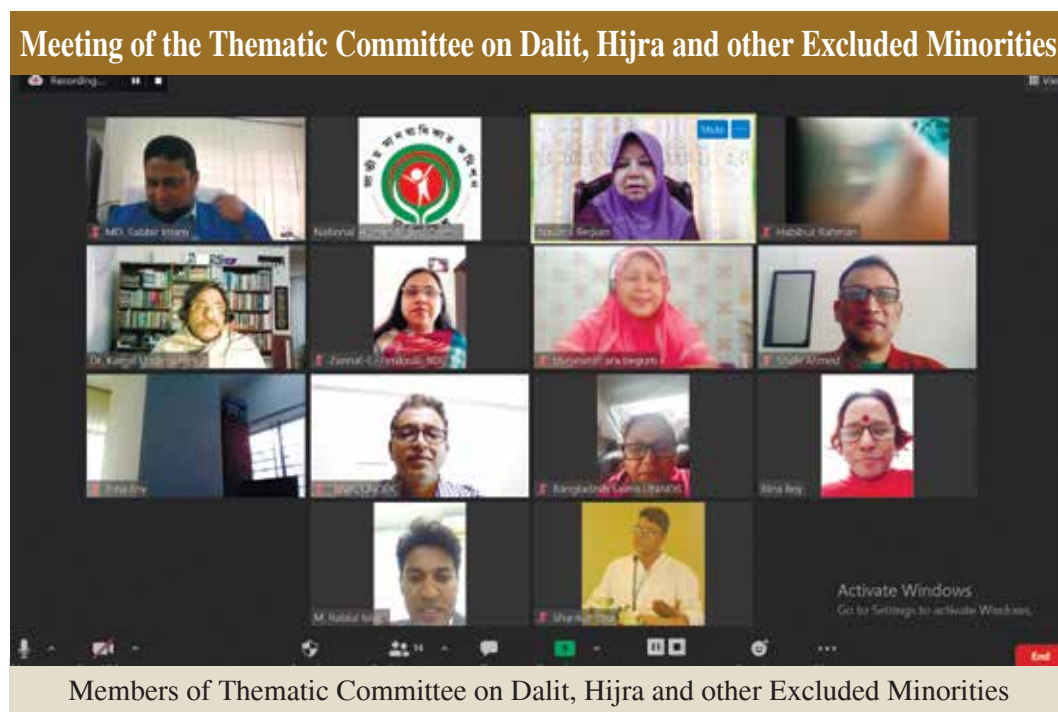
Meeting of this committee was held on 12 July 2021. Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Full Time Member, NHRCB and Chair of the Committee presided over the meeting. Shamim Ahmed Chowdhury, General Secretary, BAIRA; Nurul Islam, Former DG, BMET, Binoy Krishna Mallik, Executive Director, Rights Jessore, Merina Sultana, Director-Program, RMMRU, Sheili Sharmin, Director Americas, Foreign Ministry, Professor Ishrat Shamim, Executive Director, CWCS, Shariful Hasan, Head of Migration, Brac; Mazharul Islam, DIG-Immigration, SB, Police Headquarters, Mohammad Shahriar Alam, SS Immigration (Admin); Ruhul Kuddus, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment, Farida Yasmin, Director, Foreign Ministry were present at the meeting.

Following decisions were taken in the meeting: -

- (1) A Survey will be done to identify the causes of internal migration

and way forward funded by UNDP or NHRC.

- (2) A Survey may be conducted to identify the reasons for harassment of migrants and way forward.
- (3) Letter will be sent to government's concerned authority to resend those returnee migrants who lost jobs due to covid-19.
- (4) Letter will be sent to the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs to form Courts in human trafficking prone areas.
- (5) A survey will be done to identify problems faced by the migrants and recommendations will be sent accordingly.
- (6) A survey will be done to identify steps that could be taken to prevent human trafficking.
- (7) Letter will be sent to Ministry of Foreign Affairs to prepare detailed answer of TIP Report.



Meeting of this committee was held on 24 January 2021. As per the decision of the committee letter was sent to the Secretary of Election Commission to ease the process of giving NID to transgender and sex workers with following recommendations:

- (a) Process of identifying sex in NID and changing sex should be made easy.

- (b) Opportunity of changing sex identity, Name and Photo of transmen/Women should be there.
- (c) Ensuring NID for sex workers by making the process easier.

It should be noted that drafting of the Transgender Rights and Protection Act is under process.

Meeting of the Thematic Committee on Religious Minorities and Non-citizens Rights:

Meeting of this committee was held on 05 August 2021. Land rights issues of ethnic minorities and other minority communities were discussed in the meeting. A committee had been formed to send recommendations to government that would identify the discriminations and problems on this topic. The committee will prepare a roadmap and send recommendations to government accordingly. The committee had prepared a draft report.

Besides, as per the decision of the committee the commission sent recommendation to the Cabinet Secretary for replacing the name of the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs to the Ministry of Ethnic Minorities of CHT and Plain Lands Affairs. In addition, discussion was held on way forward to protecting rights of religious minorities and non-citizens.

Meeting of the Thematic committee on CHT Affairs



Members of Thematic Committee on CHT Affairs

NHRCB Member and Chair of this committee Ching Kew Roaza presided over this meeting. Former Member of NHRCB Nirupa Dewan, Thoai Aung Marma, Van Trir Boon, Mothura Tripura, Dhiman Khisha and Yangang Mro attended the meeting. They suggested NHRCB that the commission might recommend for amendment of any act that was contradictory with the rights of the people of CHT. The commission might play an important role in improving the condition of education, health, human rights in this arena. They expected support from NHRCB

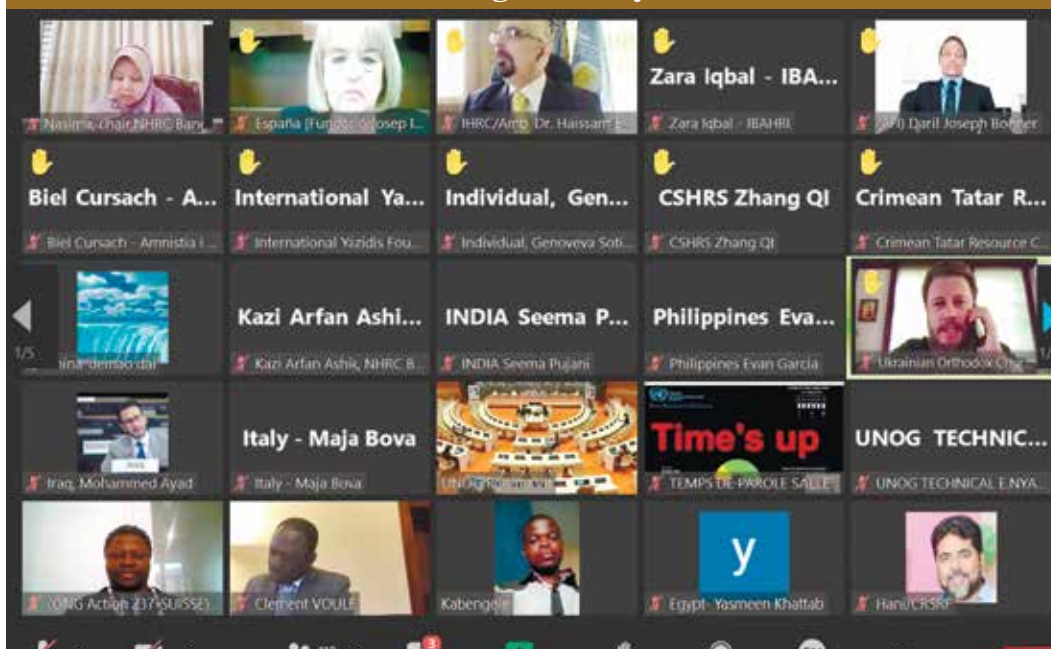
regarding any type of human rights violation.

Following recommendations were given in the meeting.

- Reapplying quota for the people of CHT who are lagged behind.
- Incorporating one people from each community in CHT regional Parishad.
- Arranging several seminar to uphold human rights.
- Forming school, health clinics etc. for the people of Chimbuk Hill, Bandarban.

4.4 NHRCB in International Forums

3rd Session of the Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law organized by OHCHR.



Participants at the 3rd Session of the Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law

NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc urged international community to resolve the Rohingya crisis and act together for safe and peaceful repatriation of Rohingyas to Myanmar, in the 3rd session of the Forum on

Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law organized by OHCHR held on 16-17 November 2021. She also talked about the National Inquiry against VAW, legal aid and other initiatives of NHRCB.

Seminar on “Strengthening the United Nations’ victim-centred response to sexual exploitation and abuse through partnerships with national human rights institutions – challenges and opportunities”

Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) organized a virtual meeting on NHRC’s Partnership with UN to strengthen victim centered response to sexual exploitation and abuse on 28 October 2021. NHRCB Chairman

Nasima Begum, ndc said about activities of first ever formed National Inquiry committee against VAW Particularly rape. Besides, she also mentioned about other initiatives of NHRCB and government to prevent VAW.

26th Annual General Meeting of Asia Pacific Forum

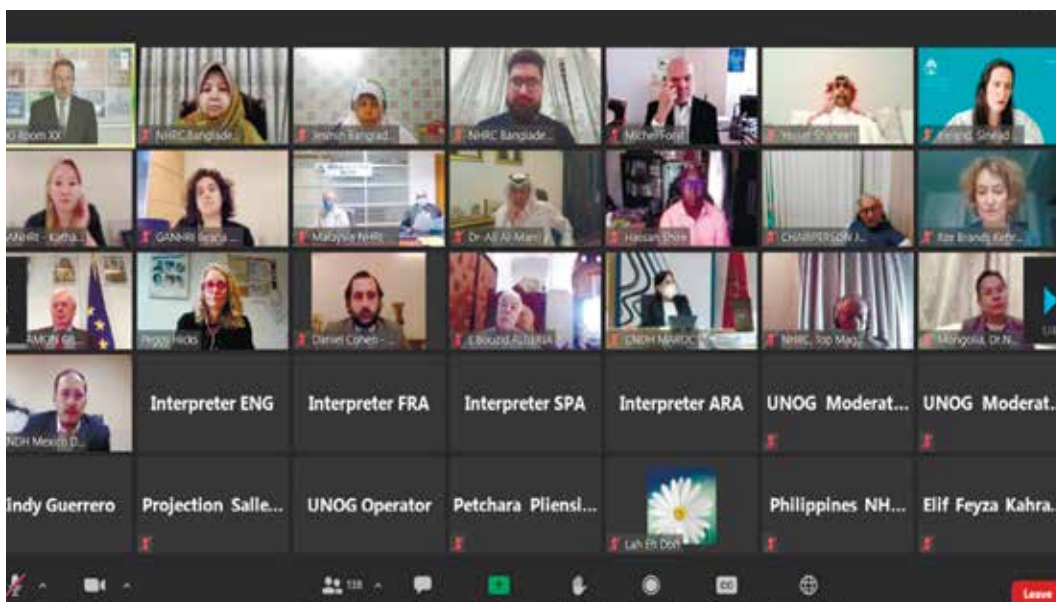


Participants at 26th Annual General Meeting of Asia Pacific Forum (APF)

This meeting was held on 15 September 2021 online. NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc, Full Time Member Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Member Jesmin Ara Begum attended the meeting. The participants

appraised the initiative of NHRCB regarding National Inquiry Committee. NHRCB Chairman called on international community to come forward to resolve Rohingya crisis.

GANHRI Annual Conference



This conference was held on 29 June 2021 online. NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc, Full Time Member Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed attended the meeting. NHRCB Chairman called on international community to come forward to resolve Rohingya crisis. She also mentioned about the initiatives taken by the Commission during Covid 19 for promoting and protecting human rights.

Seminar on Ombudsman International Meeting on Migration and Refugee: Rights at Risk



NHRCB Full Time Member Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed attended Ombudsman International Meeting on Migration and Refugee: Rights at Risk organised by Colombian Ombudsman on 19-21 October 2021. Hon'ble President of Colombia Mr. Ivan Dugue Marquez arranged dinner of the participants. FIM Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed had conversation on human rights him.

Workshop organized by UPR Info



Geneva based UPR Info organized a virtual workshop on 18-20 January 2021 with the aim of preparing UPR and discussion the steps of UPR with NHRCB.

Regional workshop on "Mainstreaming Land Rights in the UNGPs in Asia"



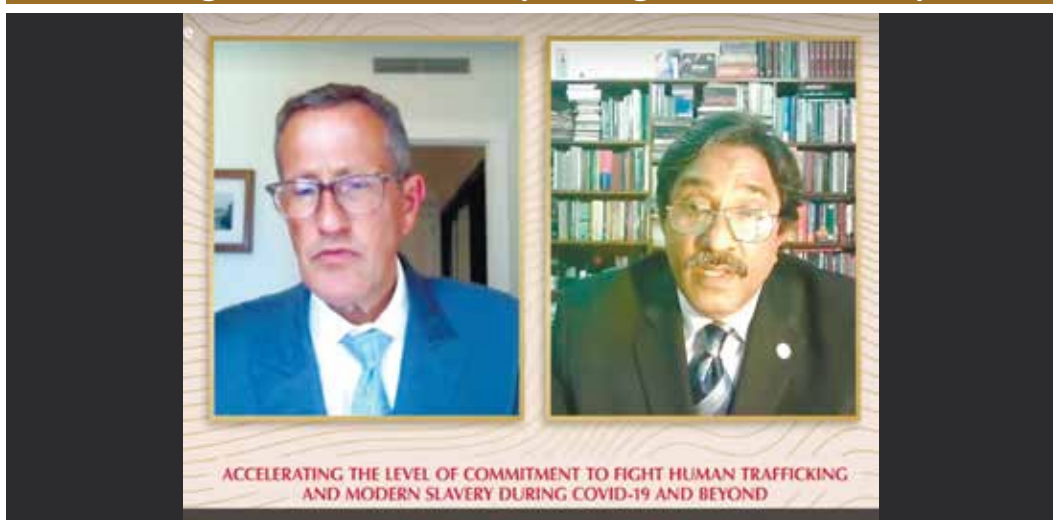
Asia NGO Coalition organised regional workshop on "Mainstreaming Land Rights in the UNGPs in Asia" on 03 August 2021. NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc spoke at the workshop.

Regional workshop on "Mainstreaming Land Rights in the UNGPs in Asia



NHRC Chairman Nasima Begum,ndc, Director (Complaint & Inquiry), Deputy Directors and Assistant Directors of Complaints & Inquiry Division attended the Training on Complaint Inquiry organised by Turkish Ombudsman

Seminar on “Accelerating the level of Commitment to fight Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery during Covid- 19 and beyond.”



NHRC Full Time Member spoke at the Seminar on Accelerating the Level of Commitment to fight Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery during Covid 19 and beyond.

NHRCB Full Time Member Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed gave speech as panelist in the meeting titled “Accelerating the level of Commitment to fight Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery during Covid- 19 and beyond.” The program was held online jointly by the Permanent Mission in of Bangladesh, Austria and EU and Nigeria, Qatar and

UK. Mr. Antonio Guterres, Secretary General of UN presented key note paper and popular anchor of CNN Mr. Richard Quest chaired the event. Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed said, “Most of the people fall victims of human trafficking due to poverty and being misguided by the frauds. We all should take coordinated initiatives to prevent human trafficking.

MOU between NHRCB and BRAC



A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between NHRCB and BRAC on 15 February 2021 with the aim of working together for protecting rights of the persons with disabilities. Under this MOU two institutions will work together for making public transports and infrastructures more accessible for the Persons with Disabilities. On behalf of NHRCB, Secretary Mr. Narayan Chandra Sarkar and on behalf of BRAC, Executive Director Mr. Asif Saleh Signed the MOU.

4.6 Use of ICT:

- Effective use of e-File
- Operationalise e-GP
- Operationalise Call Center
- Use of Social Media for publicizing information
- Operationalising digital complaint management system under process
- Operationalising integrated office management system under process

4.7 Publications and Polices:

This year NHRCB Published Annual

Report 2020 and submitted it to the Hon'ble President of the people's Republic of Bangladesh. Leaflet on "SDGs and Human Rights" edited by hon'ble Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc was published with the aim of making people understand easily about the relation between SDGs and human rights. The Commission has planned to distribute these leaflets in educational institutions of all districts and Upazilla levels. Besides, NHRCB has published special souvenir on the occasion of Human Rights Day 2021. Bangla translation of Paris Principal have been published.

4.8 Some Remarkable Decisions of Commission Meeting.

92nd Commission Meeting (12th of present Commission)

- To strengthen the Commission, NHRC Act 2009 needs to be amended. Thus, decision was taken to send letter to Legislative and Parliamentary Affair Division in this regard.
- It is important to exact a rule for operating the activities of NHRC. Decision was taken to request HRP-UNDP for preparing a draft rule in Bangla.

93rd Commission Meeting

- As per the decision of thematic committee on PWDs and Autism, a draft policy on Scriber was prepared. Decision was taken to send the draft policy to the Ministry of Policy to the Ministry of Public Administration, Ministry of Social Welfare and Ministry of Education.
- To create awareness on human rights NHRC will form Human Rights Violation Prevention and Protection Committee in all divisions and districts.
- Decision was taken to appoint interns. They will be treated as per the service rules of the

NHRC. Minimum 10 interns will be appointed for 06 months.

94th Commission Meeting

- A Concept Paper had been drafted by a sub-committee at thematic Committee on Child Rights. Representatives from ILO, save the children, UNICEF, Incidin Bangladesh were included in that Committee. The paper will be sent to the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

95th Commission Meeting

- NHRC noticed a number of reports on fraudulent activities of many fake organizations who are cheating with people in the name of NHRC. NHRC will send letter to 333 government information and service, 999 emergency service and 109 VAW prevention helpline requesting to inform any such incidence to the commission if noticed.
- A National Action plan will be formulated as per UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. A separate thematic committee on land rights will also be formed.
- Human rights defenders are playing important role in

protecting human rights in grassroot level. However, there is no standard list of human rights defenders. Decision was taken to prepare a standard list of human rights defenders and as per the list, training will be provided to them.

- Study/Research will be conducted as per the ideas generated in thematic Committees and decision of the Commission meeting.
- A documentary on the activities of National Inquiry Committee be prepared.

96th Commission Meeting

- The meeting discussed about the report of the fact pending Committee on murder of a child in “Chotomoni Nibash” of Bagbari, Sylhet and suicide of a resident of Center for Training and Rehabilitation of Women with Disabilities.
- Decision was taken to add two more recommendations on the murder of child in Chotomoni

Nibash. These were: 1) Appointing care givers who are child friendly and 2) Monitoring footage of CC Camera from center.

- Discussion was held on report of fact-finding committee on attack against Hindu minorities in Pirganj, Rangpur. Discussion on the attack in Comilla and other regions against Hindu minorities was also held. The Commission believes that it is important to train responsible government officers and staff on how to act tactfully and wisely in handling crisis situations like this. Decision was taken to send a letter to the Ministry of Home Affairs in this regard. Decision was taken to send letter to Ministry at Home Affairs to take action against the Irresponsible behavior of officer-in-charge at Kotoali Model Thana.
- Discussion was held on the rules related to process of management of cases by NHRC’s Panel lawyers.

4.9 Press Release

Topic	Date
Action of NHRC on Casualties in Launch MV Obhizan.	24.12.21
Prize Giving ceremony of the Essay competition on “liberation war, liberty and Humane values” and quiz competition 2021, launching of human rights scholarship and online human rights training course, handing over Sexual Harassment Prevention and Protection Act 2021.	21.12.21
NHRC Chairman attends dialogue with students	14.11.21
Discussion on National Mourning Day 2021	15.08.21
Meeting of the Thematic Committee on PWDs	05.08.21
NHRC expressed concern on casualties caused by fire at Narayanganj	09.07.21
Hon’ble chief Justice called on judges for quick disposal of rape cases	19.06.21
NHRC condemns burning a boy for allegation of cow stealing.	26.04.21
Meeting of the Thematic Committee on rights of elderly people.	08.04.21
Online consultation on more acceptable and effective participation of transgender people in safety net project.	23.03.21
NHRC Chairman mourns death of H.T. Imam, Political Adviser of Prime Minister.	08.03.21
NHRC condemns death of writer Mushtak Ahmed.	27.03.21
NHRC Chairman Gets Covid-19 Vaccine.	10.02.21
Meeting of the Thematic Committee on rights of Dalit, Hijra and other marginalized Community	25.01.21
NHRC Chairman mourns death of Ayesha Khanom, President of Bangladesh Mohila Parishad.	02.01.21

Present Challenges and Way Forward

The National Human Rights Commission, Bangladesh is now a decade-old institution but it is still a new Commission compared with many other NHRIs of the Asia Pacific region. Much of its institutional development is done but much remain undone. Until now, institutional strengthening and enhancing manpower and capacity building of officers and staff is very important for the Commission; especially, developing training and a learning culture, grappling with obstacles to develop offices in the region and sub-region and building own infrastructures fall in this line. Strengthening NHRCB also means streamlining the ways and means for achieving “A” status. Institutional strengthening also entails making NHRCB-job lucrative enough so that employees will not be quitting jobs and skilled manpower remain in place. Commission’s ability to working independently without financial constrains need to be maintained intact and whether there is any vulnerability and changes in the donor landscape is also to be calculated on time.

Of course, Government is expressing willingness to strengthening the

Commission and the Commission is faring well in embodying itself as the prime institution for promoting and protecting human rights in the country. Legitimate optimism has been generated in the minds of people that NHRCB can deliver more for safeguarding human rights with better manifestations. Until then some conspicuous hurdles and barriers need to be overcome by the Commission.

The first and foremost challenge of the Commission still remains to be the manpower enhancement. On the way to augmenting manpower there are some definite problems. The major one is the turnover of employees. Very often employees are coming in and leaving the organisation because NHRCB-job has still not assumed a lucrative feature.

NHRCB is now lacking a permanent office-building. A permanent office is believed to be instrumental for providing a better working environment and creating a sense of ownership among the officers and staff and that consequently can help enhance the Commission’s image and prestige to a new height. To have a piece of land acquired and to have a

building erected is an emerging challenge for the Commission. The Commission is advocating and lobbying with the Government to this end expecting an impending solution.

Despite working tirelessly for the promotion and protection of human rights in the country from inception in 2009, Global Alliance For National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) has given B Status to NHRCB. According to the organization NHRCB falls short of fulfilling the requirements mentioned in Paris Principal. Some provisions in the NHRC Act do not match with Paris Principal. NHRCB thinks that NHRC cannot be blamed for the Act. Although NHRC India has similar act like ours they got A status. On the other hand, Bangladesh got B status. This is discriminatory.

The Commission wants to listen to the grievances and complaints of people with full potential. Maximum attention is employed to the disposal of complaints but, as a matter of fact, due to shortage of man-power all the complaints cannot be handled in a given time. Moreover, despite considerable IT-related improvement e.g. e-Filing the Complaint Management System of the Commission still requires to be made fully automated and digitally activated. It is expected that within next year we will see the developments

in this regard.

As per the second Five Year Strategic Plan (2016-2020) NHRCB has been working relentlessly to reduce discriminations from the society. To eliminate gender-based violence and discrimination NHRCB is conducting country-wide awareness raising campaigns. Moreover, NHRCB drives and leads necessary policy and legal reforms and wants to expedite those initiatives. The Draft Anti Discrimination Law is submitted for enactment with a view to curbing discrimination against women and others but discriminatory stereotypes and harmful practices such as child marriage, forced marriage, polygamy etc remains in the society compromising the equal rights of women. To create a momentum in the minds of stakeholders and duty-bearers with regards to understanding the immediacy of an Anti-Discrimination Law and implementing all other relevant legislations is a great challenge.

Challenge part in the thematic area includes studies on situations of the minorities along with their right to land, protection of rights of the ethnic minorities, implementation of the Peace Accord in CHT, rights of women, children and persons with disabilities vis-à-vis implementation of policies and legislations, labor rights including ILO convention, CBA

rights, EPZ law, ensuring universal education and of course the Rohingya issue giving rise to many humanitarian crises. Collection of authentic data on different thematic issues is also to be considered as a great challenge.

Though the current efforts of NHRCB are expanded to include the excluded and close coordination is maintained with partners and stakeholders but there remains ineffectiveness in the way to attain sufficient results. There is ample scope of improvement through reinforcing monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in a unique NHRCB-way.

Under the charismatic leadership of Honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh the country is progressing on many fronts including astounding economic advancement. Government is committed to establishing Rule of law curbing loop holes of systems, corruption and malpractices and augmenting transparency and accountability of the duty-bearers.

Implementation of SDGs is important; achieving SDGs is incorporated with Government's all short and long-term plans, policies and visions like the Vision 2021, Vision 2041 and the Vision 2100 or the Delta Plan which sufficiently highlight on Government's conviction and determination of achieving the sustainable goals. If SDGs are implemented properly poverty and hunger will be alleviated, food security

and nutrition will be ensured, good health and wellbeing of people will be maintained, quality education will be delivered, woman's empowerment and gender parity will be achieved, decent employment will be generated and sustainable economic growth will be attained. And not only these, implementation of all goals and targets of the 2030 agenda has the potential of dispelling all kinds of discriminations from the society incorporating principle of equity and access to opportunity for all. It is also presumable that successful implementation of SDGs will enable us to combat climate change and its impact; pollution and degradation of environment will disappear. SDG-16 promises a lot more- the establishment of human rights by means of ensuring access to justice, rule of law, peace and harmony for all; that means implementation of SDGs will help building an inclusive society where all citizens including the marginalized ones, the persons with disabilities, the third gender or Hijra, the religious and ethnic minorities, Dalits, Horijons, Bede, Muchietc all will be mainstreamed and none will be left behind. In this way the objectives of the cherished dreams of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman will be reached and the visionary Sonar Bangla (Golden Bengal) will be transformed into reality paving the way for fulfilling of human rights in a sustainable manner.

Annex 01:

District based responsibility of hon'ble Commissioners for monitoring human rights violations

SL	Photo	Name & Designation	Division/District Name
1		Nasima Begum, ndc Chairman NHRC	Dhaka, Tangail, Kishoreganj and Mymensingh
2		Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed Full Time Member NHRC	Rajshahi, Rangpur, Noakhali, Feni, Lokkhipur
3		Advocate Towfika Karim Member NHRC	Comilla, Brahmanbaria, Chadpur, Narshingdi and Gazipur district
4		Ching Kew Roaza Member NHRC	Chattogram, Rangamati, Khagrachari, Bandarban & Cox's Bazar
5		Mizanur Rahman Khan Member NHRC	Faridpur & Barisal
6		Jesmin Ara Begum Member NHRC	Sylhet

Annex 02:

List of National Human Rights Commission Officers Name, Telephone and E-mail:

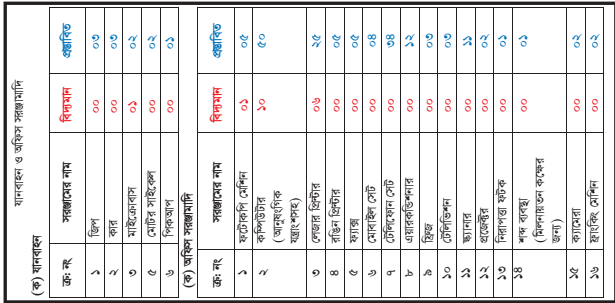
Sl. No.	Officers Name & Designation	Telephone Number	E-mail
1.	Narayan Chandra Sarkar Secretary (Joint Secretary)	55013716	secretary@nhrc.org.bd nsarkar64@gmail.com
2.	Md. Ashraful Alam Director (Complaint & Inquiry) District & Sessions Judge	55013719	director.complaint@nhrc.org.bd liptonbjs@gmail.com
3.	Kazi Arfan Ashik Director (Admin & Finance)	55013722	director.admin@nhrc.org.bd ashik.nhrc@gmail.com
4.	Mohammad Gaji Salauddin Deputy Director	55013724	gaji.complaint@nhrc.org.bd gaji_salauddin@yahoo.com
5.	M. Rabiul Islam Deputy Director	55013721	rabiul.complaint@nhrc.org.bd robinnhrc@gmail.com
6.	Susmita Paik Deputy Director	55013720	susmita.complaint@nhrc.org.bd paiksusmita@gmail.com
7.	Farjana Najneen Tultul Deputy Director	02-55014165	farjanatultul@gmail.com
8.	Md. Azahar Hossain Deputy Director	02-55013726-28	ad.training@nhrc.org.bd azahar.sociology@gmail.com
9.	Mohammad Towhid Khan Deputy Director	02-55013726-28	ad.it@nhrc.org.bd abir9813@gmail.com
10.	Md. Jamal Uddin Deputy Director (Admin & Finance)	02-55013726-28	ad.finance@nhrc.org.bd mjamal.nhrc@yahoo.com
11.	Farhana Syead Deputy Director	55013723	pro@nhrc.org.bd farhana.syead@gmail.com
12.	Jesmin Sultana Officer In-charge Khulna and Gopalganj Regional Office	02477723885 Khulna 02478821341 Gopalganj	ad.mediation@nhrc.org.bd jesmintani35llb@gmail.com
13.	Md. Rabiul Islam Officer In-charge Rangamati and Cox's Bazar Regional Office	02035163983 Rangamati 02333346713 Cox's Bazar	ps.chairman@nhrc.org.bd rabiduens@gmail.com
14.	Md. Jumman Hossain Assistant Director (Finance) Current Charge	02-55013726-28	super@nhrc.org.bd jumman13@gmail.com
15.	Md. Zulfiqer Shahin Administrative Officer	02-55013726-28	titulig00@gmail.com
16.	Md. Abu Saleh Administrative Officer	02-55013726-28	nikhil.bd2009@gmail.com

Annex 03:

Financial Statement (2020-21)

Financial Code	Details	Budget	Revised Budget	Budget (with reappropriation)	Actual Expenditure (Till 30 June 2021)	Unused Money (Till 30 June 2021)
		2020-21	2020-21	2020-21	2020-21	2020-21
3631101	Assistance as Salary					
3111101	Actual Salary (Officer)	12,000,000.00	11,920,000.00	11,920,000.00	8,564,363.00	3,355,637.00
3111201	Actual Salary (Staff)	2,220,000.00	2,300,000.00	2,300,000.00	2,249,824.00	50,176.00
	Total	14,220,000.00	14,220,000.00	14,220,000.00	10,814,187.00	3,405,813.00
3631102	Assistance as Allowance					
3111302	Transport Allowance	40,000.00	56,000.00	56,000.00	55,025.00	975.00
3111306	Education Allowance	50,000.00	70,000.00	70,000.00	67,000.00	3,000.00
3111310	House Rent Allowance	5,600,000.00	5,100,000.00	5,200,000.00	5,188,752.00	11,248.00
3111311	Medical Allowance	450,000.00	545,000.00	545,000.00	537,629.00	7,371.00
3111312	Mobile/Cell phone Allowance	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	15,000.00	35,000.00
3111313	Residential Telephone Cash Allowance	250,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	163,576.00	36,424.00
3111314	Tiffin Allowance	35,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	36,680.00	3,320.00
3111325	Festival Allowance	2,000,000.00	2,350,000.00	2,595,000.00	2,590,370.00	4,630.00
3111327	Overtime Allowance	280,000.00	250,000.00	5,000.00		5,000.00
3111328	Recreational/ Entertainment Allowance	300,000.00	400,000.00	400,000.00	176,180.00	223,820.00
3111331	Refreshment Allowance	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	170,100.00	29,900.00
3111332	Honorarium	3,000,000.00	3,700,000.00	2,200,000.00	3,647,824.00	(1,447,824.00)
3111335	Bangla New Yeat Allowance	220,000.00	214,000.00	214,000.00	198,476.00	15,524.00
3111338	Other Allowance	3,000,000.00	2,300,000.00	2,300,000.00	2,059,800.00	240,200.00
	Total	15,475,000.00	15,475,000.00	15,475,000.00	14,906,412.00	568,588.00
3631103	Assistance as Goods and Services					
3211106	Refreshment Expenditure	400,000.00	400,000.00	400,000.00	170,582.00	229,418.00
3211107	Transport Usage (Based on Agreement)	-	1,500,000.00	1,250,000.00	168,953.00	1,081,047.00
3211109	Labor Costs (Without government employee)	200,000.00	400,000.00	410,000.00	405,760.00	4,240.00
3211110	Expenditure related to Act	500,000.00	500,000.00	500,000.00	50,000.00	450,000.00
3211111	Expenditure related to Seminar/ Conference	10,000,000.00	4,500,000.00	4,455,000.00	111,625.00	4,343,375.00
3211113	Electricity	500,000.00	500,000.00	500,000.00	189,465.00	310,535.00
3211114	Utility Service	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00		10,000.00
3211115	Water	300,000.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	113,329.00	186,671.00
3211117	Internet/ Fax/ Telex	200,000.00	200,000.00	235,000.00	230,701.00	4,299.00
3211119	Postal	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	1,624.00	48,376.00
3211120	Telephone	400,000.00	400,000.00	400,000.00	314,695.00	85,305.00
3211121	Machinery and Other equipments	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00		20,000.00
3211125	Publicity and Advertisement cost	20,000,000.00	7,500,000.00	7,500,000.00	3,374,563.00	4,125,437.00
3211127	Books and Magazines	400,000.00	400,000.00	400,000.00	92,276.00	307,724.00
3211129	Office Rent	17,500,000.00	18,000,000.00	18,000,000.00	17,584,424.00	415,576.00
3211131	Outsourcing	5,000,000.00	7,500,000.00	7,500,000.00	7,158,984.00	341,016.00
3211135	Recruitment Examination	-	500,000.00	500,000.00	349,465.00	150,535.00
3221106	Transport Expenditure	300,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	-	100,000.00
3221108	Bank Charge	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00		10,000.00
3231301	Training	300,000.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	296,067.00	3,933.00
3243101	Petrol oil lubricant	1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00	1,053,174.00	146,826.00
3244101	Travel Expenditure	4,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	61,788.00	1,938,212.00
3255101	Computer Accessories	400,000.00	400,000.00	400,000.00	389,017.00	10,983.00
3255102	Printing and Binding	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	1,250,000.00	1,179,835.00	70,165.00
3255105	Other Stationary Goods	400,000.00	400,000.00	400,000.00	243,114.00	156,886.00
3256103	Usable Goods	700,000.00	700,000.00	700,000.00	540,026.00	159,974.00
3257302	Medical Expenditure	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	801,938.00	698,062.00
3258101	Motorvehicle	500,000.00	500,000.00	500,000.00	352,786.00	147,214.00
3258102	Furniture	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00		15,000.00
3258103	Computer	300,000.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	61,990.00	238,010.00
3258126	Telecommunication Accessories	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00		50,000.00
3258140	Motorvehicle Maintenance Cost	600,000.00	600,000.00	600,000.00	500,000.00	100,000.00
	Total	66,755,000.00	51,755,000.00	51,755,000.00	35,796,181.00	15,958,819.00
3631108	Research Grant					
3257103	Research Cost	600,000.00	800,000.00	800,000.00	700,000.00	100,000.00
	Total	600,000.00	800,000.00	800,000.00	700,000.00	100,000.00
3632102	Equipments Grants					
4112305	Fire Fighting Accessories	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00		50,000.00
4112310	Office Accessories	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	321,460.00	678,540.00
	Total	1,050,000.00	1,050,000.00	1,050,000.00	321,460.00	728,540.00
3632105	ICT Grants					
4112201	ICT Accessories	500,000.00	900,000.00	900,000.00	887,092.00	12,908.00
4112202	Computer and Other Accessories	900,000.00	1,300,000.00	1,300,000.00	1,283,420.00	16,580.00
	Total	1,400,000.00	2,200,000.00	2,200,000.00	2,170,512.00	29,488.00
3632106	Other Capital Grants					
4112314	Furniture	500,000.00	700,000.00	700,000.00	541,267.00	158,733.00
	Total	500,000.00	700,000.00	700,000.00	541,267.00	158,733.00
Total National Human Rights Commission		100,000,000.00	86,200,000.00	86,200,000.00	65,250,019.00	20,949,981.00

Annex 04: Organogram

[illegible]

Annex 05:
List of Thematic Committee

SL.	Committee	Name & Designation	Member Secretary
1	Committee to advise government on acts, treaties and conventions on human rights	(a) Nasima Begum, ndc- Chair All Memmers of NHRC- Member	Mohammad Gaji Salauddin Deputy Director
2	Committee on Dalit, Hijra, Religious, Ethnic, Non-citizen and other excluded minorities' rights	(a) Nasima Begum, ndc- Chair All Memmers of NHRC- Member	Susmita Paik Deputy Director
3	Committee on Persons with Disability and Autism	(a) Nasima Begum, ndc- Chair (b) Mizanur Rahman Khan- Member	Farjana Najneen Tultul Deputy Director (Complaint & Inquiry)
4	Committee on Child Rights and Child Labor	(a) Nasima Begum, ndc- Chair (b) Jesmin Ara Begum, Member (c) Mizanur Rahman Khan- Member	M. Rabiul Islam Deputy Director
5	Committee on Business and Human Rights and CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility)	(a) Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Chair (b) Advocate Towfika Karim, Member (c) Ching Kew Roaza, Member	Md. Touhid Khan Deputy Director
6	Committee on Climate Change, Environment and Disaster Management	(a) Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Chair (b) Advocate Towfika Karim, Member (c) Jesmin Ara Begum- Member	Md. Azahar Hossain Deputy Director
7	Committee on Migrant Worker's Rights and Anti Trafficking	(a) Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Chair (b) Mizanur Rahman Khan- Member	Mohammad Gaji Salauddin Deputy Director

SL.	Committee	Name & Designation	Member Secretary
8	Committee on Respecting others opinion with a view to create moral values and awareness on human rights	(a) Advocate Towfika Karim, Chair (b) Mizanur Rahman Khan- Member (c) Jesmin Ara Begum- Member	Md. Jamal Uddin Deputy Director (Admin & Finance)
9	Committee on CHT Affairs	(a) Ching Kew Roaza, Chair (b) Jesmin Ara Begum- Member	Rabiul Islam In-charge of Cox's Bazar and Rangamati office
10	Committee on Elderly People's Rights	(a) Mizanur Rahman Khan- Chair (b) Adv. Towfika Karim- Member (c) Ching Kew Roaza- Member	Md. Azahar Hossain Deputy Director
11	Committee on Violence against Women and Children	(a) Jesmin Ara Begum- Chair (b) Adv. Towfika Karim- Member	Susmita Paik Deputy Director
12	Committee on Economic, Social, Cultural, Civil and Political Rights	(a) Mizanur Rahman Khan-Member (b) Jesmin Ara Begum-Member	Farhana Syead Deputy Director

Annex 06:

Annex 0: Previous Commissioners of NHRC

2008- 2010

Chairman	Justice Amirul Kabir Chowdhury	2008-2010
Full Time Member	Niru Kumar Chakma	2008-2010
Member	Monira Khanom	2008-2010

2010 -2016

Chairman	Prof. Dr. Mizanur Rahman	June 2010 –June 2016
Full Time Member	Kazi Reazul Hoque	June 2010 –June 2016
Respected Honorary Members	Nirupa Dewan	June 2010 –June 2016
	Fawzia Karim Firoze	June 2010 –June 2016
	Aroma Dutta	June 2010 – June 2016
	Selina Hossain	June 2010 –June 2016
	Prof. Mahfuza Khanom	June 2010 –June 2016

2016 -2020

Chairman	Kazi Reazul Hoque	August 2016 - June 2019
Full Time Member	Md. Nazrul Islam	August 2016 –August 019
Respected Honorary Members	Begum Nurun Naher Osmani	August 2016 –August 2019
	Enamul Hoque Chowdhury	August 2016 –August 2019
	Prof. Akhter Hossain	August 2016 –August 2019
	Prof. Meghna Guhathakurta	August 2016 –August 2019
	Banchita Chakma	August 2016 –August 2019

2019 till present

Chairman	Nasima Begum, ndc	September 2019-present
Full Time Member	Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed	September 2019-present
Respected Honorary Members	Advocate Towfika Karim	September 2019-present
	Ching Kew Roaza	September 2019-present
	Jesmin Ara Begum	September 2019-present
	Mizanur Rahman Khan	September 2019-present
	Dr. Nomita Halder, ndc	September 2019-August 2021

Annex 07: Regional Offices

Rangamati Rajbari Road, Rangamati Sadar, Rangamati-4500 Responsible Officer Phone: + 88 035163983 Mobile: 01317358935 e-mail: rabiduens@gmail.com	Cox's Bazar SM Mansion, (Ground Floor), Siraj Ahmed Nazir Road, Baharchora, Cox's Bazar Responsible Officer Phone: + 88 02 333346713 Mobile: 01317358935 e-mail: rabiduens@gmail.com
Khulna 6/ A, (Level 5) Shikder Gaffar Tower 8 no. P C Roy Road, Khulna Responsible Officer Phone: 02 477723885 Mobile: 01746208049 e-mail: ad.mediation@nhrc.org.bd	Gopalganj Holding no-462, Village- Pachuria, P/O-Gopalganj Thana- Gopalganj Sadar, District- Gopal- ganj Responsible Officer Phone: 02 478821341 Mobile: 01746208049 e-mail: ad.mediation@nhrc.org.bd

Annex 08:

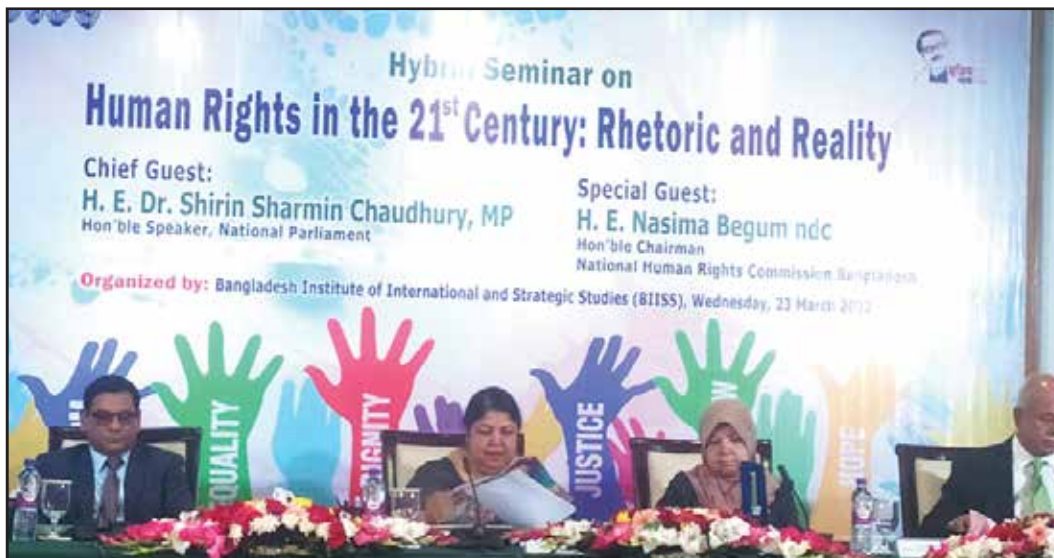
Responsible Information Officer

Responsible Information Officer	Director (Admin & Finance) National Human Rights Commission Phone: + 88 02 55013722 Mobile: +8801552330095 e-mail: director.admin@nhrc.org.bd Office: National Human Rights Commission Level-08, BTMC,7-9 Karwan Bazar Dhaka-1215 Website: www.nhrc.org.bd
Appeal Officer	Secretary National Human Rights Commission Phone: + 88 02 55013716 Mobile:+ 8801711201332 e-mail: secretary@nhrc.org.bd Office: National Human Rights Commission Level-08, BTMC,7-9 Karwan Bazar Dhaka-1215 Website: www.nhrc.org.bd

Annex 09: Photo Gallery



NHRC submits Annual Report 2020 to hon'ble president



Seminar on Human Rights in the 21st Century: Rhetoric and Reality organized by Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies

Annex 09: Photo Gallery



Hon'ble Speaker of Bangladesh Parliament speaks as the Chief Guest at the discussion on way forward to prevent VAW and rape



NHRC Chairman and Member with hon'ble MPs at the discussion on way forward to prevent VAW and rape

Annex 09: Photo Gallery



NHRC's Consultation with Hon'ble Minister of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs on the Amendment of NHRC Act 2009



NHRCB Full Time Member Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed attended the ombudsman International Meeting on Migration and Refugee: Rights at Risk organized by Colombian Ombudsman on 19-21 October 2021. He also visited Venezuelan Refugee Camp situated in Colombo. During his visit, he drew attention of the international community on repatriation of Rohingyas with their human rights to their ancestral land in Myanmar

Annex 09: Photo Gallery



NHRCB Chairman and Full Time Member spoke at international conference organized by 3rd UN South Asia Forum on Business and Human Rights. Representatives from NHRC, India, Maldives and Korea also attended the conference



NHRCB Chairman and Full Time Member spoke at international conference organized by 3rd UN South Asia Forum on Business and Human Rights. Representatives from NHRC, India, Maldives and Korea also attended the conference

Annex 09: Photo Gallery

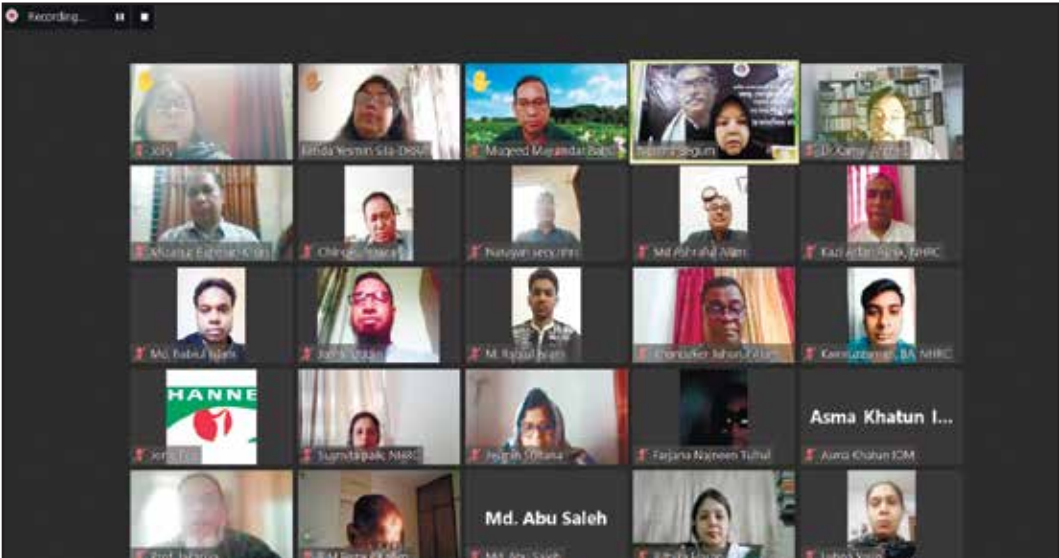


H.E. Ambassador of EU paid courtesy call to Hon'ble Chairman of NHRCB



Online meeting organized on the occasion of celebrating golden jubilee of independence of Bangladesh

Annex 09: Photo Gallery



Virtual meeting organized on national mourning day 2021



NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc spoke as the Chief Guest at National Strategy Consultation for the Establishment of South Asian Regional Human Rights Mechanism organized by Ain o Salish Kendra

Annex 09: Photo Gallery



NHRCB Fact Finding Committee led by Director (Complaint and Inquiry) visited the spot in Priganj, Rangpur where attack on hindu minority by the miscreants was held

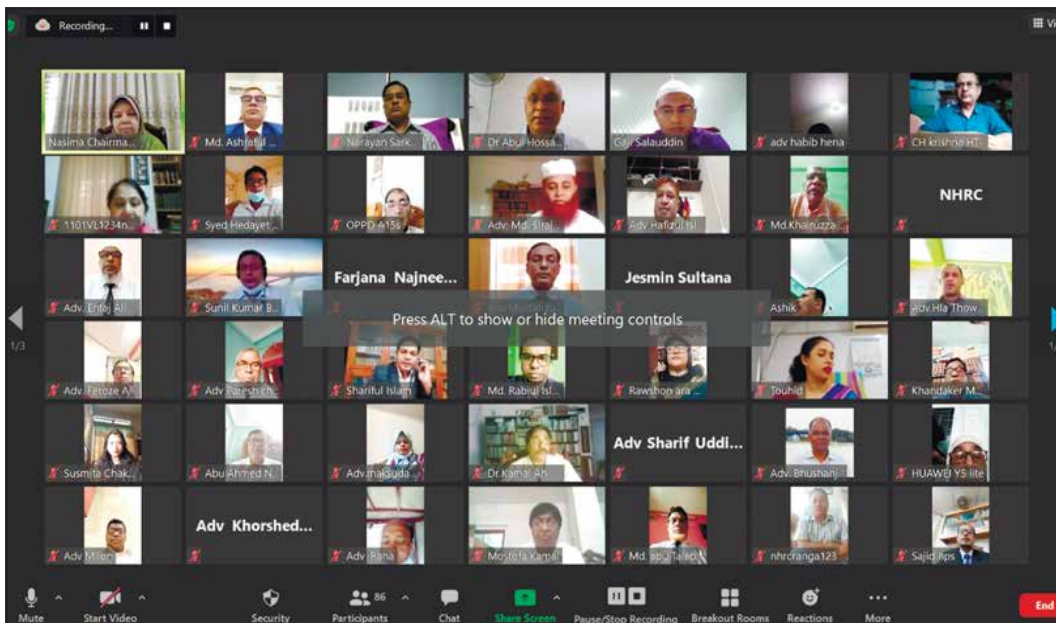


NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc spoke as the Chief Guest at discussion meeting on guideline on human rights in Sylhet

Annex 09: Photo Gallery



Mr. Anisul Huq, M.P, Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs spoke as the Chief Guest at the program organized for presenting executive summary of National Inquiry Committee report on the occasion of International Women's Day 2022. Md. Tofazzel Hossain Miah, Senior Secretary, Prime Minister's Office, Sudipto Mukerjee, Resident Representative, UNDP spoke at the program as Special Guests. NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc presided over the discussion. Full Time Member Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed gave welcome speech. Member Jesmin Ara Begum presented executive summary of National Inquiry Committee's report



Discussion meeting between NHRCB Chairman and Panel Lawyers

Annex 09: Photo Gallery



NHRCB Chairman Nasima Begum, ndc facilitated training on human rights at police Staff college



Officials of Bangladesh Police attended Human rights training in Police Staff College

Annex 09: Photo Gallery



NHRCB Full Time Member Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed facilitated human rights training in Police Staff College



Program organized by RAB on launching ceremony of TVC on raising awareness on preventing teenage gang

Annex 09: Photo Gallery



NHRCB Chairman, Full Time Member and officers paid homage to the martyrs in national Martyrs Monument on the occasion of our Independence Day



Public Hearing to combat Violence against Women held in Mymensingh

Human Rights Day - 2021



Rally on human rights day was led by NHRC Chairman, participated by Full Time Member, Members and people of all sectors



Rally led by Divisional Commissioner of Khulna

Human Rights Day - 2021



Rally led by Divisional Commissioner of Mymensingh



Rally led by Divisional Commissioner of Rajshahi

Human Rights Day - 2021



Rally led by Divisional Commissioner of Dhaka



Rally led by Divisional Commissioner of Chattogram

Human Rights Day - 2021



Rally led by Divisional Commissioner of Sylhet



Rally led by Divisional Commissioner of Rangpur

Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948

1. Right to live with dignity by birth
2. Non-discrimination
3. Right to independent & secured life
4. No to slavery
5. No to cruel torture, humiliated behavior
6. Equal right in everywhere as human being
7. Equality before law
8. Right to get relief from court
9. No to illegal detention and exile
10. Right to get impartial tribunal
11. Innocent until proven guilty in court
12. Right to privacy
13. Freedom of movement in own country
14. Right to take asylum in other country for fear of persecution
15. Right to get nationality
16. Right to marriage and form family
17. Right to property
18. Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
19. Right to freedom of Expression
20. Right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association
21. Right to democracy
22. right to social security
23. right to work, to free choice of employment
24. right to rest and leisure
25. Right to get necessary services including food, clothing, housing and medical care
26. Right to education for all
27. Copyright protection
28. Right to cooperation of all in an open world
29. Own Responsibility to protect other's rights
30. No one can violate human rights



National Human Rights Commission

National Human Rights Commission, Bangladesh
BTMC Building (Level-8), 7-9 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215
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