SOUTH ASIAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE (SARI)

BANGLADESH — HUMAN RIGHTS AND PUBLIC SERVICES

5 AUGUST 2024 — 16 OCTOBER 2026

45 Rue Emile Zola, ESA 1E L 107, Boite 87, 93120 La Courneuve, France

info@southasianrights.eu | www.southasianrights.eu | +33 7 58 42 19 75

Association W931031114

Expanded research book edition | Evidence-based, non-exhaustive dossier

Photo rights: no unlicensed photographs have been reproduced. Linked original publications may contain editorial photographs.

CONTENTS AND READING GUIDE

01 — Party ban and civic freedoms

02 — Arrest patterns and individual evidence

03 — Detention, medical care and deaths

04 — Assemblies and alleged political links

05 — Cultural expression and academic space

06 — Gopalganj violence and collective complaints

07 — Proceedings involving Sheikh Hasina

08 — Muhammad Yunus: court outcomes and claims

09 — Tarique Rahman and BNP: governance and legal status

10 — Measles and childhood immunization

11 — Education and children’s rights

12 — Health services and vulnerable groups

13 — Food prices, poverty and household welfare

14 — Electricity and gas supply

15 — Diesel, transport and fuel access

16 — Banking, employment and economic governance

17 — Documentation, accountability and remedies

Source categories: institutional data, published NGO reporting, judicial decisions, attributed allegations and unresolved questions. None should be confused with another.

01 Party ban and civic freedoms

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

In May 2025, the interim administration prohibited Awami League activities, including meetings, publications and online communications. Human Rights Watch questioned whether the broad restrictions were consistent with freedom of expression and association. The Election Commission subsequently suspended the party registration. A rights-based review should assess necessity, proportionality, duration, independent judicial oversight and effective appeal.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

Assess whether a general restriction on meetings, publications and digital speech was necessary and proportionate. Document whether individuals could challenge the decision before an independent court.

Separate a party-wide administrative restriction from the criminal responsibility of any individual. Freedom of association extends to unpopular political groups, subject to lawful and narrowly tailored restrictions.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Record each refusal of a meeting, publication, registration or online activity with the date, responsible authority, written order and outcome of any appeal.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.hrw.org/news/2025/05/21/bangladesh-review-laws-and-protect-human-rights-standards

https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2026/country-chapters/bangladesh

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

02 Arrest patterns and individual evidence

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

After August 2024, security forces detained large numbers of former ruling-party officials and perceived sympathizers. Human Rights Watch documented cases filed against extensive lists of unnamed people, enabling arrests without clear individualized evidence. Each allegation requires a case number, date, named detainee where publication is lawful, legal basis and independent corroboration.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

Review arrest warrants, first-information reports, remand applications and lists of unidentified suspects. The central issue is whether individualized evidence connects a detainee to a recognizable offense.

Allegations about killings during the 2024 protests warrant investigation; a broad or poorly specified criminal complaint does not itself establish guilt. Political affiliation alone is not evidence of an offense.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Compare initial allegations with subsequent charge sheets, judicial orders and bail decisions; seek a defense response and independently verified court records.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.hrw.org/report/2025/01/27/after-monsoon-revolution/roadmap-lasting-security-sector-reform-bangladesh

https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2026/country-chapters/bangladesh

https://www.hrw.org/news/2026/08/23/bangladesh-end-indefinite-pretrial-detention-of-political-opponents

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

03 Detention, medical care and deaths

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

On 23 August 2026 Human Rights Watch called for an end to prolonged pretrial detention of people linked to the former Awami League government. It reported hundreds remaining imprisoned without charge, allegations of inadequate medical access, and at least ten Awami League office holders dying in prison since February 2026. Deaths in custody warrant independent investigation; this source alone does not establish the cause of each death.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

The August 2026 HRW investigation describes detainees with serious health conditions, including former office holders and elderly prisoners. The cited deaths in custody require case-specific examination.

A death in custody is not automatically proof of deliberate killing or medical neglect. An independent inquiry should examine clinical records, medication, transfer requests, autopsy findings and prison staff testimony.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Record admission date, detention grounds, bail requests, treatment dates, medical referrals and death certificate, while respecting family consent and privacy.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.hrw.org/news/2026/08/23/bangladesh-end-indefinite-pretrial-detention-of-political-opponents

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

04 Assemblies and alleged political links

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

Human Rights Watch reported that around 290 participants at a Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal meeting in Dhaka were detained on 26 September 2026 after accusations of Awami League links; 27 were remanded in custody. The same report described arrests in Barisal and Dhaka around gatherings said by participants to mark Sheikh Hasina’s birthday. Police allegations and participants’ explanations must both be attributed rather than treated as adjudicated fact.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

The September 2026 detentions raise questions about whether police treated peaceful association or political expression as criminal conduct. The reporting distinguishes police allegations from participants’ accounts.

Investigate any evidence of planning violence independently of slogans or political sympathy. Peaceful birthday commemorations or political statements should not automatically be conflated with criminal conspiracy.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Collect event notices, contemporaneous videos, custody lists, the wording of police accusations, remand orders and accounts from neutral witnesses.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.hrw.org/news/2026/10/05/bangladeshi-police-round-up-opposition-supporters

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

05 Cultural expression and academic space

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

On 28 August 2025 police detained 16 participants, including journalists and academics, at a public discussion organized by Mancha 71, according to Human Rights Watch. Some were elderly. The episode raises questions about whether police protected lawful assembly against intimidation and whether arrests were supported by individualized evidence.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

Public meetings, cultural forums and campus debates can be important settings for pluralistic expression. Any intervention should be assessed against the actual conduct alleged and the legal authority used.

The presence of political viewpoints in a meeting is not by itself proof of violence. Conversely, an allegation of intimidation or violence requires investigation regardless of the political identities involved.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Verify venue, organizer, event date, any interruption, statements by police or university authorities, and the status of resulting complaints.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.hrw.org/news/2025/10/08/bangladesh-new-crackdown-under-anti-terrorism-law

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

06 Gopalganj violence and collective complaints

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

Human Rights Watch reported that five people were killed in Gopalganj on 16 July 2025 during violence involving security forces and Awami League supporters after a rally. Police then detained hundreds of alleged supporters and filed ten murder cases naming more than 8,400 mostly unidentified people. A complete account must distinguish casualties, perpetrators not yet established by a court, police actions and the rights of all victims.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

The HRW country report describes five deaths in July 2025, subsequent detentions and cases naming thousands of mostly unidentified suspects. Both the deaths and any indiscriminate enforcement require investigation.

The right to peaceful assembly does not protect violence. Equally, a violent incident does not justify guilt by association or punishment of an entire political constituency.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Create a separate evidence file for each death, injury and arrest. Distinguish the sequence of events, the identity of alleged perpetrators, and independent forensic findings.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2026/country-chapters/bangladesh

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

07 Proceedings involving Sheikh Hasina

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

Human Rights Watch reported that the International Crimes Tribunal sentenced Sheikh Hasina to death in absentia in November 2025 in relation to crimes against humanity during the 2024 protests. The organization also criticized deficiencies in tribunal due-process safeguards and opposed the death penalty. This report does not erase allegations concerning 2024 victims; it separately demands effective defence, access to evidence, impartial adjudication and appeal.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

The International Crimes Tribunal proceedings and reported in-absentia sentence should be analyzed with the presumption of innocence, the right to counsel, meaningful appeal and international fair-trial safeguards in view.

Serious allegations concerning the 2024 crackdown deserve credible accountability. A critique of procedure is not an exoneration, and a judicial judgment should not be represented as beyond challenge when appeals or review mechanisms may apply.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Obtain the judgment, charging document, defense submissions, rules governing trial in absentia, independent trial-monitoring analysis and the latest appeal status.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2026/country-chapters/bangladesh

https://www.amnesty.org/en/location/asia-and-the-pacific/south-asia/bangladesh/

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

08 Muhammad Yunus: court outcomes and claims

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

A corruption allegation is not a conviction. On 23 April 2025 the Supreme Court dismissed a money-laundering case against Muhammad Yunus and others; reporting on the judgment said the underlying dispute was civil rather than criminal. The documented rights concerns during the interim administration may be scrutinized independently, but cannot by themselves prove Yunus personally committed corruption. Additional authenticated case records would be needed for any separate corruption claim.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

Public accusations concerning Dr Muhammad Yunus must be matched to exact case numbers and decisions. A dismissed case, a pending allegation and a final conviction have entirely different evidentiary meanings.

Avoid presenting allegations as established corruption without a competent court finding or independently verified documentary evidence. Record the response of the accused and the disposition of each case.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Use certified court decisions, prosecution statements, contemporaneous financial records where lawfully available, and independent reporting; document corrections or reversals.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/court/supreme-court-dismisses-money-laundering-case-against-yunus-13-others-1

https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2026/country-chapters/bangladesh

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

09 Tarique Rahman and BNP: governance and legal status

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

The Supreme Court acquitted Tarique Rahman and another defendant in a money-laundering case on 6 March 2025, according to Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha. It would be inaccurate to describe that case as a current conviction. Human Rights Watch separately criticized arrests of perceived opponents and reported deaths in prison since the BNP government took office in February 2026. Government responsibility for protecting detainees does not itself establish individual criminal culpability.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

The conduct of the BNP-led government from February 2026 can be assessed through current police practices, detention safeguards, judicial independence and protection of opponents.

Past cases against political leaders require current legal-status verification; acquittals and overturned judgments cannot be omitted. Government responsibility for current abuses must be tied to evidence and applicable law.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Compare dated official policy with implementation, collect complaints and decisions, and distinguish an individual allegation from an institutional pattern.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.bssnews.net/news/252326

https://www.hrw.org/news/2026/08/23/bangladesh-end-indefinite-pretrial-detention-of-political-opponents

https://www.hrw.org/news/2026/10/05/bangladeshi-police-round-up-opposition-supporters

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

10 Measles and childhood immunization

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

The United Nations situation report covering 25 June 2026 recorded over 95,760 suspected measles cases, 11,390 confirmed cases, 596 suspected deaths and 93 confirmed deaths across 64 districts. Children under five represented 81 percent of reported cases. The report also recorded more than 18.4 million children vaccinated in the nationwide measles-rubella campaign. These are dated figures, not totals for October; causation and responsibility require epidemiological evidence.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

The United Nations situation report dated 25 June 2026 records more than 95,760 suspected and 11,390 confirmed measles cases, 596 suspected and 93 confirmed deaths, and vaccination of more than 18.4 million children.

Suspected and confirmed cases or deaths must never be added together as if they were equivalent. The figures describe a public-health emergency but do not alone prove a specific official caused the outbreak.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Compare immunization gaps, geographic distribution, supply interruptions, surveillance quality and the timing of vaccination campaigns. Seek age-disaggregated and district-level data.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://bangladesh.un.org/en/319256-bangladesh-situation-report-5-measles-outbreak-25-june-2026

https://www.who.int/southeastasia/outbreaks-and-emergencies/disease-outbreak-news/item/2026-DON598

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

11 Education and children’s rights

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

Education disruption should be investigated through school attendance, closures, examination disruption, teacher pay, safety incidents and public budgets. Human Rights Watch documented closure of early education programmes in Rohingya camps linked to funding reductions. It is not evidentially justified to claim the entire national education system was destroyed without nationwide data. The right to education and the situation of displaced children merit separate review.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

Assess learning continuity, attendance, school safety, teacher availability, school closures and affordability of education for low-income families. Distinguish national trends from local incidents.

A claim that the entire education system has collapsed requires national evidence. School-level disruptions can still create serious rights concerns without establishing countrywide failure.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Gather ministry attendance data, school calendars, independently documented closures, family testimony and UNICEF or UNESCO indicators across comparable years.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2026/country-chapters/bangladesh

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

12 Health services and vulnerable groups

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

Health-system accountability includes measles surveillance, vaccine coverage, access to essential medicines, maternal and child care, and treatment of people in detention. The UN measles report provides outbreak and campaign indicators; Human Rights Watch documented alleged denial of medical care to political detainees and reduced health services in Rohingya camps. Different settings and causes must not be conflated.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

Analyze access to primary care, emergency treatment, medicines, maternal health, child health and services for people held in custody. Access differs sharply by region and income.

Distinguish a national financing problem from a verified failure at an individual hospital. Medical claims require a dated source, facility name, clinical records when consented to, and an opportunity for response.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Track public spending, essential medicine availability, facility capacity, referral times and independent patient outcomes rather than relying on anecdotes alone.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://bangladesh.un.org/en/319256-bangladesh-situation-report-5-measles-outbreak-25-june-2026

https://www.hrw.org/news/2026/08/23/bangladesh-end-indefinite-pretrial-detention-of-political-opponents

https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2026/country-chapters/bangladesh

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

13 Food prices, poverty and household welfare

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

The World Bank’s October 2026 update estimated growth of 3.4 percent in FY26 and FY27 and reported about 2.1 million additional people living in poverty in FY26. Elevated inflation reduced purchasing power, while job creation stalled and women lost jobs. These are serious socioeconomic concerns; attributing every deterioration solely to one political leader would require counterfactual and sectoral analysis.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

The World Bank October 2026 update estimates about 2.1 million additional people in poverty in FY26, with weak labor demand and high inflation. This is a modeled estimate tied to a fiscal period.

An increase in hardship is not proof of personal corruption by a named politician. Economic policy choices can be evaluated against documented inflation, wages, subsidies and social-protection outcomes.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Present a dated price series for staple foods, real-wage changes, household purchasing power and poverty estimates with their methodology and uncertainty.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2026/10/06/bangladesh-needs-urgent-financial-energy-and-revenue-r

https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/099408104212512419

https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2026/10/06/bangladesh-needs-urgent-financial-energy-and-revenue-reforms-to-restore-growth-cre

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

14 Electricity and gas supply

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

The World Bank identifies energy-sector constraints as a significant barrier to investment, production and economic recovery, and says improvement depends partly on easing energy supply. This establishes sectoral vulnerability, not that all of Bangladesh was without electricity, natural gas or diesel. Verified shortage reports should identify locality, start and end date, duration, fuel type, supplier, affected users and primary evidence.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

Examine power generation, fuel imports, arrears, distribution interruptions, household connections and industrial gas allocation. A national energy-sector weakness does not mean every household lacks electricity.

Separate scheduled load shedding, localized outages, industrial gas rationing and nationwide supply indicators. Attribution to a government requires a documented policy chain and countervailing evidence.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Use grid and utility bulletins, outage duration logs, sectoral gas supply data and independent business surveys with clear dates and locations.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2026/10/06/bangladesh-needs-urgent-financial-energy-and-revenue-r

https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2026/10/06/bangladesh-needs-urgent-financial-energy-and-revenue-reforms-to-restore-growth-cre

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

15 Diesel, transport and fuel access

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

The World Bank reported a nonperforming-loan ratio of 33.2 percent in June 2026 versus 30.6 percent in December 2025, and tax revenues of 8.3 percent of GDP. Financial-sector distress can harm public services, employment and the right to an adequate standard of living. Such aggregate indicators are not proof that a named political figure committed fraud or embezzlement.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

Investigate diesel retail availability, import and reserve figures, regulated pricing, transport disruption and agricultural demand. Report verified shortages by place and date.

Do not describe Bangladesh as universally without diesel without reliable nationwide data. A queue, supply disruption or price increase is a specific observation, not proof of total national absence.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Document station-level stock-outs, government circulars, fuel price schedules and transport or irrigation impacts from corroborated sources.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2026/10/06/bangladesh-needs-urgent-financial-energy-and-revenue-r

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

16 Banking, employment and economic governance

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

Human Rights Watch documented attacks on Hindu homes in Rangpur in July 2025, gender-based violence, and mob attacks, including a reported 124 deaths in mob attacks between June and August 2025 according to Ain O Salish Kendra. Victim-centred documentation must identify incidents without presuming that all perpetrators belong to the same party or movement.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

The World Bank reported non-performing loans at 33.2 percent in June 2026 versus 30.6 percent in December 2025, alongside weak job creation and fiscal constraints.

These figures support scrutiny of governance and regulatory effectiveness, but cannot alone identify criminal wrongdoing by an individual. Distinguish macroeconomic trends from forensic allegations.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Use central-bank series, bank-level disclosures, budget data, employment surveys and published audits; explain changes in accounting definitions.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2026/country-chapters/bangladesh

https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2026/10/06/bangladesh-needs-urgent-financial-energy-and-revenue-reforms-to-restore-growth-cre

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.

---

17 Documentation, accountability and remedies

DOCUMENTED BACKGROUND

A credible international submission should include an incident register, victim consent where needed, chronology, medical and judicial records, links to original publications, rights allegedly breached, state response, case status and outstanding verification gaps. The report gives particular attention to rights of Awami League-affiliated persons, while also acknowledging UN findings concerning serious violations during the 2024 protests. No political affiliation removes the entitlement to equal protection and a fair trial.

ANALYTICAL CONTEXT

A credible archive separates each alleged incident into a unique case file and records what is known, contested, missing and independently corroborated.

Human-rights standards apply to all victims, including former ruling-party supporters and people harmed during the 2024 protests. The right to remedy must not depend on political affiliation.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY SHOULD VERIFY

Maintain a dated evidence register, preservation protocol, consent record, source reliability grade, correction log and a route for responses from persons named.

Why this matters: a broad restriction may affect not only prominent politicians but also ordinary voters, journalists, local associations and families. A rights-based investigation should therefore measure the actual reach of the measure and its practical consequences.

Institutional accountability requires evidence that can be independently checked. A dated official order, court file or hospital record normally carries more weight than an unattributed social-media claim. Where records are missing, the report must say so openly.

For international publication, every case should show its time period, geographic scope and evidentiary status. Contradictory accounts should be set side by side and updated when a new ruling or official response becomes available.

ORIGINAL REPORTS AND PHOTO SOURCES

https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2026/country-chapters/bangladesh

https://www.hrw.org/report/2025/01/27/after-monsoon-revolution/roadmap-lasting-security-sector-reform-bangladesh

https://www.amnesty.org/en/location/asia-and-the-pacific/south-asia/bangladesh/

Photographs: consult the publisher’s original page; publication rights must be cleared separately.