

POLITICAL VIOLENCE

15 KILLING **219** INJURED

RELIGIOUS MINORITIES FACED

11 CASES OF VIOLENCE

CUSTODIAL DEATHS

08 CUSTODIAL DEATHS

MOB VIOLENCE

09 KILLING **02** INJURED

JOURNALISTS FACED

13 CASES OF VIOLENCE

The human rights situation in Bangladesh during June 2026 remained concerning, with persistent incidents of political violence, attacks on religious minorities, custodial deaths, restrictions on freedom of expression, limitations on the right to peaceful assembly, and mob violence. A total of 29 incidents of political violence were recorded, resulting in 15 deaths, 219 injuries, and 37 cases of vandalism.

Attacks against religious minorities increased significantly, rising from three incidents in May to eleven in June, while 13 incidents of mob violence highlighted the continued prevalence of vigilante justice and communal tension.

The month also recorded eight custodial deaths, 13 incidents involving attacks on journalists, four arrests related to freedom of expression, and five incidents affecting the right to peaceful assembly. Overall, the documented patterns indicate continuing challenges in protecting fundamental rights, ensuring accountability, and upholding the rule of law, underscoring the need for effective measures to safeguard civil liberties and prevent further human rights violations.



Photo: A viral video shows Chhatra League activist Mirza Ishtiaq Ahmed Pranto moments before his detention by DB police in Faridpur.

POLITICAL VIOLENCE

Political violence remained the most significant human rights concern in Bangladesh during June 2026, with 29 recorded incidents resulting in 15 deaths, 219 injuries, and 37 cases of vandalism. Most incidents stemmed from intra-party conflicts within the BNP, while clashes involving other political actors also contributed to the violence.

One of the most alarming incidents occurred following an Awami League procession in Dhaka's Turag area, where allegations emerged that several activists had gone missing. Days later, the decomposed body of 17-year-old Md. Suman was recovered from the Turag River, intensifying public concern over politically motivated violence, disappearances, and the lack of accountability for serious human rights violations.

CUSTODIAL DEATHS CONTINUES

Custodial deaths remained a serious human rights concern in June 2026, with eight deaths documented, including five in prison custody and three in police custody. Two politically significant cases drew particular attention during the reporting period. Nurul Alam, Joint Convener of the banned Jubo League's Satkania Upazila unit, died in Chattogram Central Jail only a day after being sent to prison.

Meanwhile, Mirza Ishtiaq Ahmed Pranto, a Chhatra League activist, died after his family alleged he had been severely beaten by Detective Branch (DB) officers following his arrest in Faridpur. These incidents renewed concerns over custodial safety, allegations of torture, transparency, and accountability within Bangladesh's detention and law enforcement systems.

RIISING ATTACKS ON MINORITIES

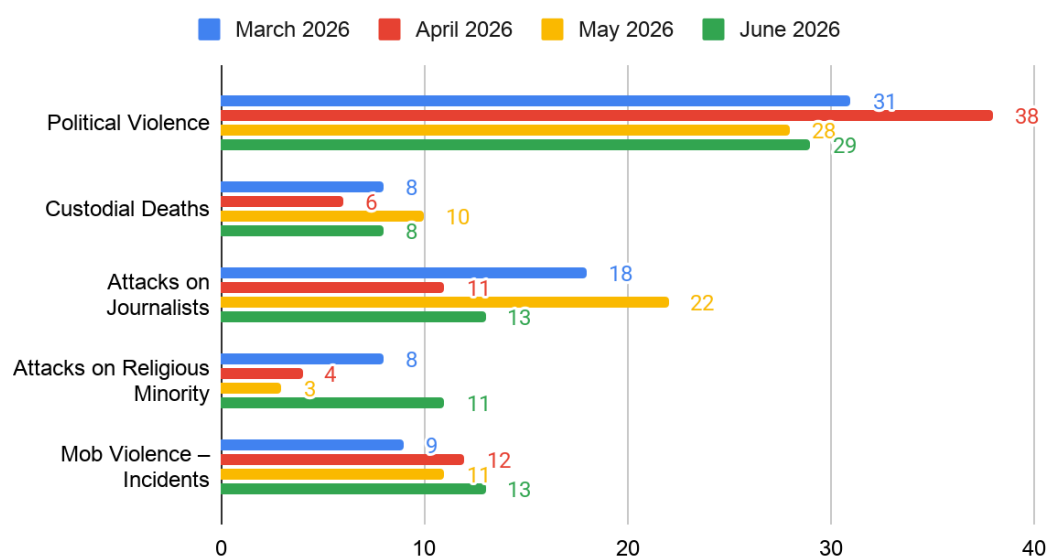
Violence and intimidation against religious minorities increased sharply during June 2026, with 11 documented incidents, compared to only three in May. The month recorded four physical attacks, 25 cases of vandalism, one incident of threats, and two arrests, reflecting growing insecurity among minority communities, particularly Hindus. Several incidents were triggered by allegations of religious defamation.

In Sunamganj, accusations of blasphemy against a Hindu student led to attacks on Hindu homes, three temples, and local businesses. In Mymensingh, a Hindu expatriate's family faced threats and social pressure after similar allegations. Repeated vandalism of temples in Faridpur and Mymensingh further highlighted the persistent vulnerability of religious minorities and the continuing failure to prevent communal violence and protect freedom of religion.

1. Overview

The human rights situation in Bangladesh during June 2026 remained marked by political violence, restrictions on civil liberties, attacks against religious minorities, custodial deaths, and incidents of mob violence. Although the overall number of political violence incidents remained almost unchanged compared with the previous month (29 incidents in June compared to 28 in May), political clashes continued to cause significant casualties, resulting in 15 deaths, 219 injuries, and 37 incidents of vandalism. Analysis of the documented cases indicates that most political violence during the reporting period stemmed from intra-party conflicts within the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), largely driven by disputes over local leadership, political influence, committee formation, and business interests, while confrontations involving other political parties also continued.

Comparison of March, April, May & June 2026



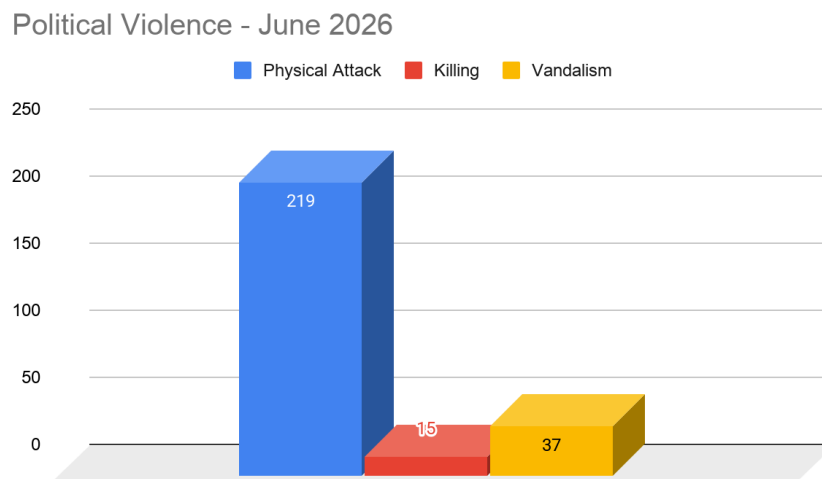
The reporting period witnessed a sharp increase in attacks against religious minorities, rising from three incidents in May to eleven in June, the highest monthly figure recorded during the last four months. Most of these incidents targeted Hindu communities through attacks on temples, vandalism of religious idols, intimidation, and violence following allegations of

religious insult. Mob violence also continued to rise, increasing from 11 incidents in May to 13 in June, with allegations of blasphemy and vigilante justice remaining common triggers. Although the number of attacks on journalists declined from 22 incidents in May to 13 in June, journalists continued to face physical assaults, arrests, and legal harassment while performing their professional duties.

Compared with the previous three months, custodial deaths remained at a consistently worrying level, with eight deaths documented during June. Law enforcement responses to demonstrations and labour protests also continued to raise concerns regarding the use of force against peaceful assemblies.

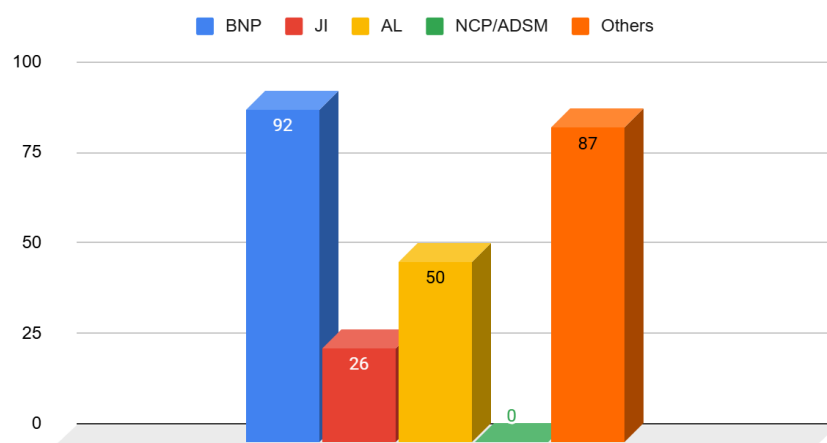
2. Political Violence

Political violence continued to be the most significant human rights concern during June 2026. A total of 29 incidents were documented across the country, resulting in 15 deaths, 219 injuries, and 37 incidents of vandalism.



The majority of violence resulted from intra-party clashes within the BNP, largely driven by disputes over local leadership, committee formation, business interests, and political dominance.

Political Violence by Group - June 2026



Among those affected, 92 individuals were affiliated with the BNP, 50 with the Awami League, 26 with Jamaat-e-Islami, and 87 belonged to other political groups or were unaffiliated.



Photo: Suman, who was found dead in Turag, posted a picture of himself participating in the procession on Facebook.

Following an Awami League procession marking the party's founding anniversary in Dhaka's Turag area, [allegations surfaced that several party activists had gone missing](#). The decomposed body of 17-year-old Md. Suman, who had disappeared after the procession,

was later recovered from the Turag River, raising concerns regarding politically motivated violence and the treatment of opposition supporters.

In Shaikupa, Jhenaidah, [violent clashes between supporters of a BNP-backed Union Parishad member and a former Awami League chairman over longstanding political rivalry left approximately 60 people injured](#), making it one of the largest political clashes recorded during the month.

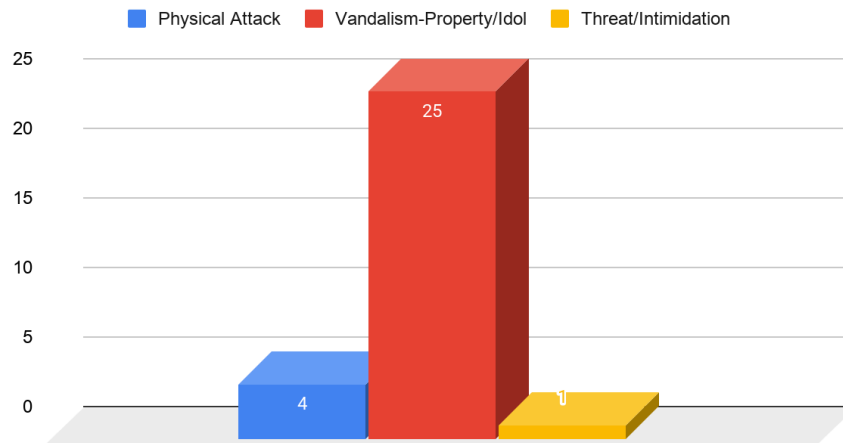
In Chaugachha, Jashore, [Jubo League leader Jewel Rana was allegedly beaten and hacked to death by BNP activists during a political confrontation](#). His wife was also injured while attempting to protect him.

The political violence documented during June demonstrates that internal factional disputes within the BNP remained the principal source of political instability, while confrontations involving other political parties also persisted. The continued recurrence of deadly clashes, widespread injuries, and property destruction reflects a failure to resolve political disputes through peaceful means. Strengthening accountability, ensuring impartial law enforcement, and promoting peaceful political engagement remain essential to preventing further violence.

3. Violence Against Religious Minorities

Religious minorities experienced a significant deterioration in their security during June. A total of 11 incidents were documented, compared with three incidents in May, representing the highest monthly figure recorded during the past four months. These incidents included four physical attacks, twenty-five cases of vandalism, one incident involving threats or intimidation, and two arrests.

Violence against Religious Minority - June 2026



In Tahirpur, Sunamganj, [allegations of blasphemy against an HSC student triggered attacks on Hindu homes, three temples, and several businesses.](#) The student was subsequently arrested under the Cyber Security Act while members of the local Hindu community reported living in fear following the violence.



Photo: Hundreds of people attacked and vandalized Hindu community homes. They looted furniture, water pumps, tanks, and other belongings.

In Madhukhali, Faridpur, [unidentified individuals vandalized idols inside a Kali temple, marking the second attack on temples in the same locality within only two days.](#)

In Mymensingh Sadar, an unidentified individual [broke into a community temple and vandalized Kali and Lakshmi idols](#), creating fear among approximately thirty Hindu families who regularly worship there.

The sharp increase in attacks against religious minorities during June is a matter of serious concern. Repeated attacks on temples and acts of communal intimidation indicate that minority communities continue to face insecurity despite existing legal protections. Prompt investigations, accountability for perpetrators, and effective measures to safeguard places of worship are necessary to prevent further communal violence.

4. Custodial Deaths

Custodial deaths remained a persistent human rights concern during June 2026. A total of eight custodial deaths were documented during the reporting period, including five deaths in prison and three deaths in police custody.

Death in Custody - June 2026

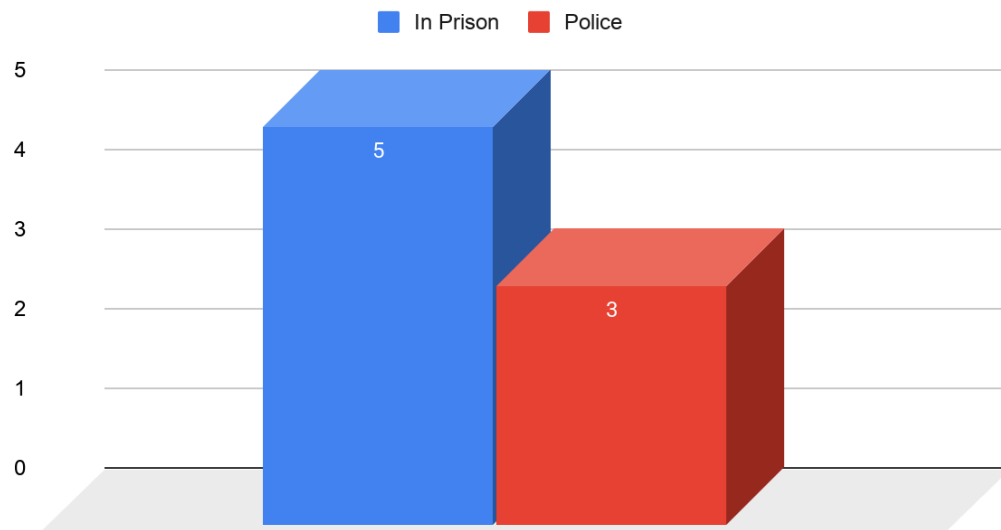




Photo: Death of Chatroleague leader in Faridpur - In the video that went viral, Ishtiaq is seen standing in front of his house on the Dhaka-Khulna highway in the West Gondardia area wearing a lungi. He had a laptop bag on his shoulder. In the video, three other people can be seen surrounding him. They are members of the DB police team and participated in the operation that day.

In Madhukhali, Faridpur, the family of [Mirza Ishtiaq Ahmed Pranto, a Chhatra League activist and law student, alleged that he died after being severely beaten by members of the Detective Branch \(DB\)](#) following his detention. Police denied the allegations, maintaining that he had not been tortured and had been treated appropriately while in custody.

Among the documented incidents, [Nurul Alam, Joint Convener of the banned Jubo League's Satkania Upazila unit, died after reportedly falling ill at Chattogram Central Jail, only a day after he had been sent to prison in connection with an explosives case.](#) Prison authorities stated that he was taken to Chattogram Medical College Hospital, where doctors declared him dead.

In Barishal, [Rashed Khan Menon, General Secretary of Ward No. 1 Awami League, died while allegedly attempting to flee during a police raid at his residence.](#) He was declared dead after being taken to Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital. Family members reportedly declined a post-mortem examination, citing fear of further harassment.

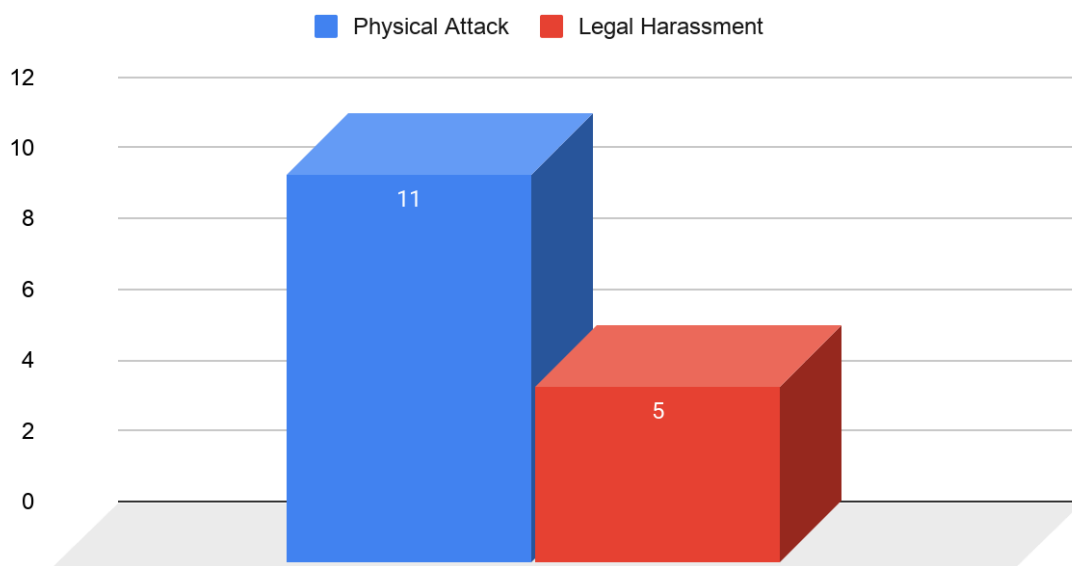
The custodial deaths recorded during June highlight continuing concerns regarding the protection of individuals deprived of their liberty. Allegations of torture, questions surrounding the medical treatment of detainees, and deaths occurring shortly after arrest underscore the importance of ensuring transparency in custodial practices.

5. Freedom of Expression

5.1 Attacks on Journalists

Freedom of the press continued to face significant challenges during June. A total of 13 incidents involving journalists were documented, including 11 physical attacks and five instances of legal harassment. Although the number of incidents declined compared with May, journalists continued to encounter violence, intimidation, and legal action while carrying out their professional responsibilities.

Violence Against Journalists - June 2026



In Dhaka, [journalists covering a Jamaat-e-Islami demonstration were physically assaulted after being accused of supporting the Awami League](#). At least one reporter sustained serious injuries.



Photo: The attack on journalists took place after a protest march by Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami at Dhanmondi 32 in the capital.

In Bogura, [acting editor Md. Rezanur Islam was arrested under the Cyber Security Act](#) and on extortion charges following allegations of publishing defamatory information concerning a government minister.

In Jashore, [bdnews24 correspondent Asaduzzaman Asad was arrested](#) from his residence during a nighttime operation, prompting protests by fellow journalists demanding his release.

Despite a reduction in the number of incidents compared with the previous month, attacks and legal action against journalists continued to undermine media freedom. Ensuring journalists can work safely without intimidation or arbitrary legal action remains fundamental to protecting freedom of expression.

5.2 Arrests for Expression

Authorities documented four arrests related to the expression of opinions during June. Most cases involved allegations concerning political criticism or statements considered offensive to religious beliefs, reflecting the continued use of criminal proceedings in response to speech.

In Jhenaidah, [Prashanta Kumar Das was detained](#) after allegedly making derogatory remarks about Islam during a discussion at a local tea stall.



Photo: On June 28, in Jhenaidah, Prashant Kumar was arrested by the Kaliganj police station on charges of insulting religion.

In Gaibandha, [Mizanur Rahman was arrested](#) after allegedly posting an edited image and offensive comments concerning the Home Minister on Facebook.

The continued arrest of individuals over speech-related allegations demonstrates ongoing concerns regarding freedom of expression. Authorities should ensure that restrictions on speech are applied only where strictly necessary and proportionate, in accordance with constitutional guarantees and international human rights standards.

6. Freedom of Assembly

The right to peaceful assembly continued to face restrictions during June. Five incidents were documented, resulting in 62 injuries, 16 arrests, and one case of legal harassment. Several demonstrations were dispersed through the use of baton charges, tear gas, water cannons, and sound grenades by law enforcement agencies.

In Motijheel, police used force to disperse customers and shareholders demonstrating in front of Islami Bank Tower, [leaving more than one hundred participants injured](#).



Photo: More than a hundred customers and shareholders were injured in police attacks and shootings on protesters in front of Islami Bank.

[Police dispersed supporters attending](#) the funeral of senior Awami League leader Tofail Ahmed after participants chanted political slogans, detaining several individuals. In Gazipur, [police used baton charges and sound grenades to disperse protesting garment workers](#) demanding justice over the death of a fellow worker, injuring several workers.

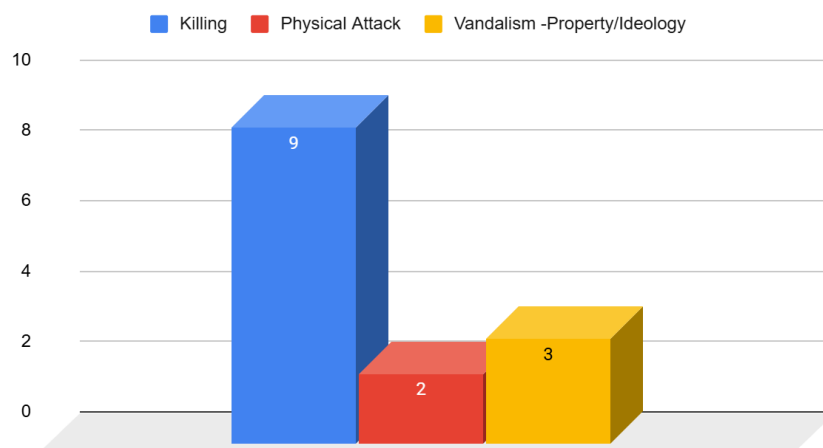
The documented incidents indicate continuing concerns regarding the management of public assemblies. The repeated use of force to disperse demonstrations highlights the importance

of ensuring that law enforcement responses remain lawful, necessary, and proportionate while respecting the right to peaceful assembly.

7. Mob Violence

Mob violence remained a serious concern during June, with 13 incidents documented across the country. These incidents resulted in nine deaths, two injuries, three cases of property vandalism, and one incident involving threats or intimidation.

Mob Violence - June 2026



In Sunamganj, [a mob attacked the home of a Hindu youth Sudipta Ray](#) accused of insulting Islam on Facebook, vandalizing homes, a temple, and nearby businesses.

In Lakshmipur, [local residents beat to death a man accused of killing a woman and her three daughters](#) before law enforcement could complete legal proceedings.

In Mymensingh, a [Hindu expatriate's family reported intimidation, extortion, and death threats](#) after allegations of religious defamation against a family member who was reportedly living abroad.



Photo: A group of people gathered in front of a shop in the market to protest against the arrest of Sudipto Roy, who was accused of allegedly insulting religion.

The persistence of mob violence demonstrates an alarming tendency toward vigilante justice and collective punishment. Allegations of religious insult continue to trigger violent reprisals, while failures to prevent such incidents contribute to fear among vulnerable communities and weaken public confidence in the rule of law.

8. Conclusion

The human rights situation in Bangladesh during June 2026 continued to reflect persistent structural challenges affecting the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms. Political violence remained the most prominent category of human rights violations, with intra-party conflicts within the BNP accounting for the majority of documented incidents, while confrontations involving other political parties also contributed to deaths, injuries, and property destruction. The continued reliance on violence to resolve political disputes underscores the fragile nature of political tolerance and the urgent need for peaceful democratic engagement.

The reporting period also witnessed a worrying increase in attacks against religious minorities and incidents of mob violence, illustrating the continued vulnerability of minority communities and the growing tendency toward vigilante justice, particularly in cases involving allegations of religious insult. Meanwhile, custodial deaths, attacks on journalists, arrests related to expression, and the use of force against peaceful assemblies demonstrate continuing concerns regarding accountability, due process, and the protection of civil and political rights.

The government should also ensure that law enforcement agencies act in accordance with national law and Bangladesh's international human rights obligations, while taking effective measures to prevent political violence, communal attacks, custodial abuse, and mob justice.