

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 19 OF THE CONVENTION**

**Concluding observations of the Committee against Torture
(Extracts for follow-up of CAT/C/BGD/CO/1)**

BANGLADESH

(...)

C. Principal subjects of concern and recommendations

(...)

Unacknowledged detention and disappearances

(...)

16. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(...)

(e) **Ensure that all places of deprivation of liberty in the State party are monitored by an independent authority with the power to carry out unannounced visits to places of detention and speak confidentially with any individual in the facility, and that representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are also permitted to access all places of detention;**

(...)

Remand detention and fundamental legal safeguards

(...)

22. The State party should:

(...)

(b) **Ensure prompt and full implementation by law enforcement authorities and magistrates of the directives issued by the High Court and affirmed by the Court of Appeal in the case of *Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust v. Bangladesh*, including through providing training and greater oversight;**

(...)

Reprisals, harassment and violence against human rights defenders and journalists

(...)

31. **The State party should:**

(...)

(d) **Ensure that members of civil society and NGOs who have cooperated with the Committee in the context of its consideration of the State party's initial report are protected from any reprisals or harassment, including charges of breaching the Information and Communications Technology Act, in keeping with the pledge given by the Minister of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.**

(...)

Excessive use of force

(...)

35. **The State party should:**

(a) **Establish an effective complaints mechanism for victims of excessive use of force and ensure that they do not suffer reprisals for reporting acts of torture and ill-treatment by law enforcement and other public officials and ensure prompt, impartial, effective investigations are carried out into all such complaints;**

(...)

Follow-up procedure

52. The Committee requests the State party to provide, by 9 August 2020, information on follow-up to the Committee's recommendations on ensuring the full implementation by law enforcement authorities and magistrates of the directives issued by the High Court; on monitoring all places of deprivation of liberty by an independent authority and representatives of NGOs; on establishing a complaints mechanism for persons detained arbitrarily; and on ensuring that members of civil society organizations who have cooperated with the Committee in the context of the consideration of the State party's initial report are protected from any reprisals or harassment, in accordance with the pledge given to the Committee by the Minister of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs (see paragraphs 22 (b), 16 (e), 35 (a) and 31 (d)). In that context, the State party is invited to inform the Committee about its plans for implementing, within the coming reporting period, some or all of the remaining recommendations in the concluding observations.

(...)