

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	524
Land:	Bangladesh
Kilde:	Reporters Sans Frontières (RSF)
Titel:	Bangladesh: violent attacks on journalists are surging — the government must take action
Udgivet:	14. februar 2025
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	21. juli 2025



Document #2123089

RSF – Reporters Sans Frontières (Author)

Bangladesh: violent attacks on journalists are surging — the government must take action

Since the beginning of February, serious attacks on journalists have been on the rise, including beatings by baton and hammer — carried out by police officers and political activists alike — and storming newsrooms. Reporters Without Borders (RSF) is sounding the alarm and calling on the authorities to bring every perpetrator to justice and ensure journalists' safety.

"The succession of multiple serious attacks against journalists in the past few days indicates a worrying surge in violence against the media. While the interim government's takeover in August 2024 raised hopes for improvement, journalists' safety remains unprotected. They are being assaulted while reporting, subjected to physical retaliation for their articles, and their newsrooms are being stormed by protesters. RSF calls on the authorities to prosecute all those responsible for these attacks, to put an end to this intolerable cycle of violence, and to ensure the safety of media professionals."

Célia Mercier

Head of the RSF South Asia Desk

From newsroom raids to hammer attacks, journalists are targeted for their work

From threats to outright physical assaults, newsrooms and journalists in Bangladesh are facing serious attacks due to their reporting. On 12 February in Chattogram, the country's second-largest city, hundreds of people who identified themselves as be employees of the Pacific Casuals Limited textile factory attempted to [storm the offices](#) of the newspaper *Chattogram Pratidin* to demand the removal of an article that criticised their factory. Held back by riot police, the protesters dispersed

after the newspaper's management promised to publish a right of reply, while also condemning the attack as an organised act of intimidation.

The recent attacks go beyond threatening demands to take down articles and include outright violence. In Shariatpur, a town in southwestern Bangladesh, journalists face brutal reprisals for their work: on 3 February, **Shohag Khan**, a correspondent for *Dainik Samakal*, was attacked by [hammer and knife](#) for his reporting on medical negligence by the brother of a clinic owner and his accomplices. The journalist had received death threats the day before. Three other journalists — **Bidhan Majumder Oni** from *News 24 TV*, **Nayon Das** from *Bangla TV* and **Shaiful Islam Akash** from *Desh TV* — were also injured as they tried to aid their fellow journalist, who was rushed to the hospital with serious injuries.

Attacks by protesters and political supporters

Media professionals also face violence and obstructions to their work when reporting on the ground. On 5 February, around twenty [supporters of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party](#) (BNP) violently attacked **Javed Akhtar** from *ATN News* and the journalists who came to his aid — **Hasan Jabed** from *NTV* and **Azizul Islam Pannu** from *Deepto TV* — in the premises of the Supreme Court. The three correspondents were covering the verdict of a case related to the 1994 attack on a train carrying the recently ousted prime minister, Sheikh Hasina.

The day after this attack, **Mohammad Omar Farok**, a correspondent for the national private channel *Independent24 TV*, **Syed Mainul Ahasan Maruf**, an employee of *Ekattor TV*, and several other journalists were assaulted by a crowd of protesters. They were covering the protestors' demolition of a museum linked to the family of the former prime minister in Dhaka, the capital, an act initiated by the anti-discrimination student movement. The police did not intervene.

Journalists on assignment charged by police

On 9 February, six journalists were attacked — this time by the police. **Kawser Ahmed Ripon** from *The Report Live*, **Asif Uz Zaman** and **Muhammad Mahadi** from *Kaler Kantho*, **Azhar Rakib** from *Bangladesh Pratidin*, **Mohammad Redwan** from *Jaago News*, and **Shimul Khan** from *Breaking News* were beaten with batons, punched, and kicked by riot police while covering a student protest in Dhaka. The injured journalists stated that the police deliberately targeted them, despite them showing their press cards, and have filed a complaint.

ecoi.net description:

Article on violent attacks on journalists

Country:
Bangladesh

Source:
[RSF – Reporters Sans Frontières](#) (Author)

Published:
14 February 2025

Original link:
<https://rsf.org/en/bangladesh-violent-attacks-journalists-are-surg-ing-government-must-take-action>

Document type:
Appeal or News Release

Language:
English

Available on ecoi.net since:
19 March 2025

Document ID:
2123089

Austrian Red Cross	Wiedner Hauptstraße	Contact
Austrian Centre for	32, 1041 Wien	Imprint & Disclaimer
Country of Origin and	T +43 1 589 00 583	F.A.Q.
Asylum Research and	F +43 1 589 00 589	Data Protection Notice
Documentation	info@ecoi.net	
(ACCORD)		

ecoi.net is run by the Austrian Red Cross (department ACCORD) in cooperation with Informationsverbund Asyl & Migration. ecoi.net is funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Austrian Ministry of the Interior and Caritas Austria. ecoi.net is supported by ECRE & UNHCR.

