



## Report

On

### Violence Against Girl Children Picture from Secondary Data (Jan-Aug'21)

National Girl Child Advocacy Forum is a platform to combat the subjugation of girl children and women in Bangladesh. Started its activities in 2000 and has been working in organizational attitude since 2003, currently has 196 central members including National & International Organizations and some individual members. It's vision is to create a positive and protective environment for girl children and women increase opportunities for girls to grow into their full potential. And advocate for comprehensive policies which help to improve the living standards and rights of girls. Since its inception, NGCAF has been working to ensure establish the rights of girl children, so it's important to know the overall pictures of girls in order to conduct activities from the field level to the policy level.

In our country, many national and international organizations are working with children. Many of those organizations collect and publish data on violence against children. However, from all these data, we get a partial picture of girls, but in many cases, it's not possible to get an overall picture of girl children. Different national and local level magazines/newspapers have published report on child marriage and sexual abuse of girls at different times. But all those information can't be properly documented. No effective monitoring system has been developed at the local levels from national level. As a result, policy makers often do not give their attention to these issues and in many cases, it becomes difficult to conduct appropriate advocacy activities to take necessary action.

In order to lobby and advocacy at the policy level, it's necessary to bring out the overall picture of girlchildren. With this vision in mind, National Girl Child Advocacy Forum (NGCAF) has taken an initiative to collect violence/ abuse pictures against girlchildren from 24 dailies (08 Daily National Print, 02 Online & 14 Local Daily News Papers) since January 2021 to get an overall picture of Girl Children with the help of Members Organizations. Targeted age limit of girl children is up to 19 years. As part of preparation of the report, Secondary data has been collected by recruiting volunteers with funds provided by Educo Bangladesh, SDS and BRAC.

Through those collected information NGCAF will have taken advocacy activities at all levels. If necessary, will advocate for the amendment of existing laws, rules (additions, deductions) and enactment of new laws.

**Below is the violence information for last 08 months based on the 24 Newspapers:**

Type of Violence	Number	Remarks
Sexual Harassment and Abuse	83	In January-Aug 2021, a total of 83 girls were sexually harassed and abused, including 4 disabled, tribal, third gender, Dalit girls. 21 girls have been victims of pornography.
Child Marriage	19	However, in the case of child marriage, the picture on the field level is far different from the number of information published in newspapers.
Rescued from child marriage.	66	



Rape	813	
Attempt to Rape	116	
Dowry	11	In the last 06 months, 11 girls have been victims of violence due to dowry, 09 have been killed and 01 girl child has committed suicide due to dowry torture.
Torture of Domestic Workers	26	From the collected data, we have received a total of 26 domestic violence, among them 13 physically tortured and 03 has been killed.
Kidnapping and Trafficking	140  07	A total of 147 girls have been kidnapped and trafficked. Of these, 140 were kidnapped, 5 were killed after kidnap, 77 were rescued after kidnap, 5 girls were trafficked, 2 were rescued after trafficking.
Eve Teasing	29	
Corporal Punishment at Educational Institutions	03	Since the Educational Institute was closed at the epidemic time, very little no has been found in this area, based on mosques / madrasas.
Acid attacks	09	Acid terror is on the rise again during the epidemic.
All types of Suicides	153	A total of 153 girls have committed suicide in the last 08 months as they could not bear all the above types of torture like rape, kidnap, dowry type violence.
All types of Murders	193	Extreme violence with all kinds of violence.
Neglect towards Girl Children	24	

**Source:**

**National Daily Newspapers:** Daily Prothom Alo, Daily Bangladesh Protidin, Daily Ittefaq, Daily Jugantor, Daily Kaler Kantho, Daily Samakal, The Daily Star, Daily Dhaka Tribune, Online Bangla Tribune, Online Dhaka Times.

**Local Daily Newspapers:** Daily Sonali Shangbad, Daily SunamKantho, Dainik Purbanchol, Daily Gramer Kagoj, Daily Korotoa, Daily Juger Alo, Daily Cox's Bazar, Daily Azadi, Daily Ajker Bangladesh, Daily Sun Shine, Daily Motobad, Daily Ajker Barta, Daily Spondon, Dainik Sabuj.



In the meantime, a press conference has been organized on September 30, 2021 on the January to August violence report, which has been circulated on 26 print medias and aired on a few TV channels.

As far as we know/ It's found that sexual violence against girl children is increasing in times of COVID-19. But sexual harassment news has been less published in the newspapers. I think it could be, Firstly- during the Covid period the movement of girls has decreased. As a result, sexual harassment in schools, colleges, roads and other places has become less. Secondly- due to the lockdown, the girls have been living with their relatives inside in the house, they have been harassed more by them, which has been reported less. Thirdly: Many people think that sexual harassment is not an extreme violence consequence like rape, the family has not made much fuss about it, because the family's honor will be ruined.

Recently rape has become a serious problem in our country. People from various quarters gathered to protest rapes across Bangladesh in recent weeks. During the movement, the Bangladesh government has adopted an amendment that would authorize the death penalty in rape cases. The ordinance will be recognized as Women and Children Repression Prevention (amendment) Ordinance -2020. According to the ordinance, 'Lifetime Rigorous Imprisonment' mentioned in Section 9(1) of the Act was replaced by 'Death or Lifetime Rigorous Punishment.' This means that rape is punishable by the death penalty or life imprisonment. Rape has not stopped, despite the death penalty being the maximum punishment. On the contrary, it's increasing day by day. Although we have a full law but the law enforcement is less, for this reason it's constantly increasing. During the news collection, we've found that even children under the age of 01 have been victims of crimes like rape and gang rape. The sad fact is that they were mostly being victimized by close relatives. These raped girls grow up in a lifelong trauma, unable to reach specific goals, which has a detrimental effect on society and the state.

From the collected data, we have found a total of 26 of domestic violence.



Corporal Punishment at Educational Institution: The same goes for the above, we know, the educational institutions were closed during lock down, but many girls were gone to madrasas or mosques to study Arabic, although the number is less now. In that case, 02 girls have been sexually harassed in religious educational institutions and 03 have been raped, which has been mentioned above.

We have received information about the Kidnapping and trafficking of a total of 147 girls in this category from the newspapers. Among them, many girls have been rescued and legal action has been taken in some cases. Note here that legal action means initial detention or case file.

We know, any disease outbreak affects women and men differently, but one trend is consistent - pandemics exacerbate the existing gender inequalities that women and girls face in their lives. For the horrendous increase in child marriage during Corona, Experts fear that child marriages can force girls to abandon school when the pandemic is finished, and they suggest immediate and effective action, including financial measures, to help families stop the practice. Although Academic activities have resumed across the country since last September 12 with the physical presence of students in educational institutions and the Education Ministry has recently said the government will kept trying to reach most targeted students through regular academic contact to prevent child marriage and possible dropout.

Finally, the above pictures of helplessness and persecution in the women and girls lives that has emerged here is the responsibility of the entire nation. We have to break the silence and unmask the family and society and it will be possible only through the responsibility of all of us including the state. And in order to continue this work, we need to continuously collect the pictures of violence against girls. By bringing up this picture we will be able to determine the issue of our advocacy. This will only be possible through the combined efforts of various like-minded organizations including NGCAF's member organizations. It's also better to mentioned that, the status of Girl Children report- 2021 will be published in next February or March.

### Division based Girl children violence (Jan-Aug'21)

Kidnapping and Trafficking		All Types of Suicides		Eve Teasing		Acid Attack		Neglect towards Girl Children		Torture of Domestic Workers	
Rajshahi	36	Rajshahi	37	Chittagong	11	Chittagong	3	Chittagong	11	Dhaka	5
Dhaka	27	Chittagong	32	Rajshahi	4	Barisal	2	Dhaka	6	Mymensingh	5
Chittagong	20	Rangpur	23	Sylhet	4	Dhaka	1	Khulna	3	Chittagong	4
Khulna	18	Barisal	22	Rangpur	3	Khulna	1	Rajshahi	3	Khulna	3
Barisal	15	Dhaka	19	Barisal	2	Rajshahi	1	Rangpur	1	Barisal	2
Rangpur	15	Khulna	11	Khulna	2	Rangpur	1	Barisal	0	Rangpur	2
Mymensingh	9	Mymensingh	3	Dhaka	1	Mymensingh	0	Mymensingh	0	Rajshahi	0
Sylhet	2	Sylhet	2	Mymensingh	1	Sylhet	0	Sylhet	0	Sylhet	0



Rape		Domestic Violence		Dowry		Sexual Harassment and Abuse		Corporal Punishment at Educational Institutions		Child Marriage	
Dhaka	168	Chittagong	6	Dhaka	4	Rajshahi	2	Barisal	1	Barisal	17
Chittagong	142	Dhaka	5	Rajshahi	3	Chittagong	1	Chittagong	1	Rajshahi	16
Rajshahi	107	Khulna	4	Chittagong	2	Khulna	1	Khulna	1	Khulna	12
Khulna	102	Barisal	3	Rangpur	2	Dhaka	3	Dhaka	0	Dhaka	11
Rangpur	79	Rajshahi	2	Barisal	0	Rangpur	7	Mymensingh	0	Chittagong	10
Barisal	74	Sylhet	1	Khulna	0	Barisal	5	Rajshahi	0	Mymensingh	5
Mymensingh	66	Mymensingh	0	Mymensingh	0	Sylhet	3	Rangpur	0	Rangpur	4
Sylhet	46	Rangpur	0	Sylhet	0	Mymensingh	1	Sylhet	0	Sylhet	2

All Types of Murders	
Chittagong	29
Khulna	24
Dhaka	18
Rajshahi	16
Rangpur	16
Barisal	14
Sylhet	12
Mymensingh	5

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