

27 November 2024

Ms. Kristalina Georgieva  
Managing Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [kgeorgieva@imf.org](mailto:kgeorgieva@imf.org)

Dear Managing Director Ms. Georgieva,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

We write as a diverse coalition of non-governmental organizations and individuals who are scholars, religious leaders, human rights advocates, and civil rights leaders to express our strong concerns regarding human rights violations and atrocities against religious minorities in Bangladesh, particularly since July 2024. We respectfully urge you to require Bangladesh to comply with IMF's "Strategy Toward Mainstreaming Gender" policy adopted in July 2022 to protect girls and women of religious minorities who are being subjected to inhuman atrocities, and your policy of inclusion for sustainable economic and human development. Human rights of religious minorities are being trampled upon with impunity. IMF should require stoppage, and rehabilitation of the victims, of such gross violations of its policies before lending to the Republic of Bangladesh.

We also urge you to require that Bangladesh honor the United Nations Human Rights Declaration and comply with Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) signed and ratified by it.

The attached report highlights the violence, rapes, murders, destruction of homes and businesses, destruction of temples, and stopping religious minorities from observing their religious rites. Since 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024 when the former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was deposed, more than 50 Hindus have been murdered in cold blood, 12 minor girls from minorities were gang-raped, several women have reported being brutalized, homes burnt down, temples destroyed, and religious minorities forced to flee. Young children are particularly vulnerable to rape, violence, and victimization to terrorize the minorities into submission.

Bangladesh army and police have remained mute spectators allowing rampaging mobs to target religious minorities with impunity. A young man was lynched inside a police station in the

presence of Bangladesh army who were complicit in persecution of religious minorities. The incidents of crimes against minorities have not stopped and the Bangladesh army colluded with the rioters in Chittagong on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024 from where we are receiving reports of more than 200 people held in detention by the army being tortured.

Religious minorities face systematic persecution and violence, and their religious freedom is severely restricted by the government through discriminatory laws, inaction and often complicity by the State and its institutions. The government's apathy toward large-scale anti-minority violence by radical militant organizations has allowed such groups to operate with impunity. Even the saintly monks of International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), a peaceful Hindu religious organization that has distributed aid and volunteered during every disaster in Bangladesh, are being persecuted. Persecution of Hindus, Christians, Buddhists, has been going on for over five decades since independence of Bangladesh in 1971 and their population has seen a genocidal proportion of decline from more than 20% in 1971 to less than 8% in 2020.

We are thankful to His Excellency the Secretary General Guterres for sending an OHCHR fact-finding mission to Bangladesh. The mandate of the Mission is limited to reviewing incidents of violence between 5<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> August 2024 which should be expanded to cover the violence until the end of October 2024. The IMF should do its own due diligence as a part of any lending to Bangladesh. We urge you to implement IMF's January 2024 "Interim Guidance Note on Mainstreaming Gender at the IMF" in Bangladesh to test the efficacy of the policy and its operationalization.

Excellency, thank you for your attention to this urgent matter and to protecting human rights of girls and women of vulnerable minorities in Bangladesh. Should you need additional information or other materials on this subject, please contact Rajesh Gooty, [rajesh@indiacause.org](mailto:rajesh@indiacause.org), at your convenience. We would appreciate it if you could designate a senior official from your office to follow up with us.

Respectfully,

**Mohinder Gulati**

President

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**Rajesh Gooty**

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Mr. Afonso Bevilaqua  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

*through [abevilaqua@imf.org](mailto:abevilaqua@imf.org)*

Dear Executive Director Mr. Bevilaqua,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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Mr. Abdullah F. BinZarah  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [abinzarah@imf.org](mailto:abinzarah@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. BinZarah,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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Mr. Arnaud Fernand Buissé  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [abuisse@worldbank.org](mailto:abuisse@worldbank.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. Buissé,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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Mr. Federico Giammusso  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

*through [fgiammusso@imf.org](mailto:fgiammusso@imf.org)*

Dear Executive Director Mr. Giammusso,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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Mr. Alfonso Guerra  
Executive Director  
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700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
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through [aguerra@imf.org](mailto:aguerra@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. Guerra,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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Mr. Louis Oscar Herrera  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
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We write as a diverse coalition of non-governmental organizations and individuals who are scholars, religious leaders, human rights advocates, and civil rights leaders to express our strong concerns regarding human rights violations and atrocities against religious minorities in Bangladesh, particularly since July 2024. We respectfully urge you to require Bangladesh to comply with IMF's "Strategy Toward Mainstreaming Gender" policy adopted in July 2022 to protect girls and women of religious minorities who are being subjected to inhuman atrocities, and your policy of inclusion for sustainable economic and human development. Human rights of religious minorities are being trampled upon with impunity. IMF should require stoppage, and rehabilitation of the victims, of such gross violations of its policies before lending to the Republic of Bangladesh.

We also urge you to require that Bangladesh honor the United Nations Human Rights Declaration and comply with Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) signed and ratified by it.

The attached report highlights the violence, rapes, murders, destruction of homes and businesses, destruction of temples, and stopping religious minorities from observance of their religious rites. Since 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024 when the former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was deposed, more than 50 Hindus have been murdered in cold blood, 12 minor girls from minorities were gang-raped, several women have reported being brutalized, homes burnt down, temples destroyed, and religious minorities forced to flee. Young children are particularly vulnerable to rape, violence, and victimization to terrorize the minorities into submission.

Bangladesh army and police have remained mute spectators allowing rampaging mobs to target religious minorities with impunity. A young man was lynched inside a police station in the

presence of Bangladesh army who were complicit in persecution of religious minorities. The incidents of crimes against minorities have not stopped and the Bangladesh army colluded with the rioters in Chittagong on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024 from where we are receiving reports of more than 200 people held in detention by the army being tortured.

Religious minorities face systematic persecution and violence, and their religious freedom is severely restricted by the government through discriminatory laws, inaction and often complicity by the State and its institutions. The government's apathy toward large-scale anti-minority violence by radical militant organizations has allowed such groups to operate with impunity. Even the saintly monks of International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), a peaceful Hindu religious organization that has distributed aid and volunteered during every disaster in Bangladesh, are being persecuted. Persecution of Hindus, Christians, Buddhists, has been going on for over five decades since independence of Bangladesh in 1971 and their population has seen a genocidal proportion of decline from more than 20% in 1971 to less than 8% in 2020.

We are thankful to His Excellency the Secretary General Guterres for sending an OHCHR fact-finding mission to Bangladesh. The mandate of the Mission is limited to reviewing incidents of violence between 5<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> August 2024 which should be expanded to cover the violence until the end of October 2024. The IMF should do its own due diligence as a part of any lending to Bangladesh. We urge you to implement IMF's January 2024 "Interim Guidance Note on Mainstreaming Gender at the IMF" in Bangladesh to test the efficacy of the policy and its operationalization.

Excellency, thank you for your attention to this urgent matter and to protecting human rights of girls and women of vulnerable minorities in Bangladesh. Should you need additional information or other materials on this subject, please contact Rajesh Gooty, [rajesh@indiacause.org](mailto:rajesh@indiacause.org), at your convenience. We would appreciate it if you could designate a senior official from your office to follow up with us.

27 November 2024

Mr. Philip Jennings  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

Dear Executive Director Mr. Jennings,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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Bangladesh army and police have remained mute spectators allowing rampaging mobs to target religious minorities with impunity. A young man was lynched inside a police station in the presence of Bangladesh army who were complicit in persecution of religious minorities. The incidents of crimes against minorities have not stopped and the Bangladesh army colluded with

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27 November 2024

Ms. Rosemary Lim  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [rlim@imf.org](mailto:rlim@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Ms. Lim,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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27 November 2024

Mr. Jun Mizuguchi  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

Dear Executive Director Mr. Mizuguchi,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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27 November 2024

Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [mmohieldin@imf.org](mailto:mmohieldin@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. Mohieldin,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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27 November 2024

Mr. Aleksei Mozhin  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [amozhin@imf.org](mailto:amozhin@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. Mozhin,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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27 November 2024

Mr. Regis O. N'Sonde  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [rsonde@imf.org](mailto:rsonde@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. N'Sonde,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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27 November 2024

Mr. Willie Nakunyada  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [wnakunyada@imf.org](mailto:wnakunyada@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. Nakunyada,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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27 November 2024

Mr. Daniel Palotai  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [dpalotai@imf.org](mailto:dpalotai@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. Palotai,

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Religious minorities face systematic persecution and violence, and their religious freedom is severely restricted by the government through discriminatory laws, inaction and often complicity by the State and its institutions. The government's apathy toward large-scale anti-minority violence by radical militant organizations has allowed such groups to operate with impunity. Even the saintly monks of International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), a peaceful Hindu religious organization that has distributed aid and volunteered during every disaster in Bangladesh, are being persecuted. Persecution of Hindus, Christians, Buddhists, has been going on for over five decades since independence of Bangladesh in 1971 and their population has seen a genocidal proportion of decline from more than 20% in 1971 to less than 8% in 2020.

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27 November 2024

Mr. Marcel Peter  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [mpeter@imf.org](mailto:mpeter@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. Peter,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

We write as a diverse coalition of non-governmental organizations and individuals who are scholars, religious leaders, human rights advocates, and civil rights leaders to express our strong concerns regarding human rights violations and atrocities against religious minorities in Bangladesh, particularly since July 2024. We respectfully urge you to require Bangladesh to comply with IMF's "Strategy Toward Mainstreaming Gender" policy adopted in July 2022 to protect girls and women of religious minorities who are being subjected to inhuman atrocities, and your policy of inclusion for sustainable economic and human development. Human rights of religious minorities are being trampled upon with impunity. IMF should require stoppage, and rehabilitation of the victims, of such gross violations of its policies before lending to the Republic of Bangladesh.

We also urge you to require that Bangladesh honor the United Nations Human Rights Declaration and comply with Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) signed and ratified by it.

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27 November 2024

Mr. Mohammed Qorchi  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [melqorchi@imf.org](mailto:melqorchi@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. Qorchi,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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27 November 2024

Ms. Shona Riach  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [sriach@imf.org](mailto:sriach@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Ms. Riach,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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27 November 2024

Ms. Elizabeth Shortino  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [eshortino@imf.org](mailto:eshortino@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Ms. Shortino,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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27 November 2024

Mr. Joerg Stephan  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [jstephan@imf.org](mailto:jstephan@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. Stephan,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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27 November 2024

Mr. Krishnamurthy Venkata Subramanian  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [ksubramanian@imf.org](mailto:ksubramanian@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. Subramanian,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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27 November 2024

Mr. Vitas Vasiliauskas  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [vvasiliauskas@imf.org](mailto:vvasiliauskas@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. Vasiliauskas,

Re: Bangladesh: Atrocities against Hindus and other religious minorities

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27 November 2024

Mr. Zhengxin Zhang  
Executive Director  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, N.W., HQ1-13-190  
Washington, D.C. 20431

through [zhang4@imf.org](mailto:zhang4@imf.org)

Dear Executive Director Mr. Zhang,

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Bangladesh army and police have remained mute spectators allowing rampaging mobs to target religious minorities with impunity. A young man was lynched inside a police station in the presence of Bangladesh army who were complicit in persecution of religious minorities. The

incidents of crimes against minorities have not stopped and the Bangladesh army colluded with the rioters in Chittagong on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024 from where we are receiving reports of more than 200 people held in detention by the army being tortured.

Religious minorities face systematic persecution and violence, and their religious freedom is severely restricted by the government through discriminatory laws, inaction and often complicity by the State and its institutions. The government's apathy toward large-scale anti-minority violence by radical militant organizations has allowed such groups to operate with impunity. Even the saintly monks of International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), a peaceful Hindu religious organization that has distributed aid and volunteered during every disaster in Bangladesh, are being persecuted. Persecution of Hindus, Christians, Buddhists, has been going on for over five decades since independence of Bangladesh in 1971 and their population has seen a genocidal proportion of decline from more than 20% in 1971 to less than 8% in 2020.

We are thankful to His Excellency the Secretary General Guterres for sending an OHCHR fact-finding mission to Bangladesh. The mandate of the Mission is limited to reviewing incidents of violence between 5<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> August 2024 which should be expanded to cover the violence until the end of October 2024. The IMF should do its own due diligence as a part of any lending to Bangladesh. We urge you to implement IMF's January 2024 "Interim Guidance Note on Mainstreaming Gender at the IMF" in Bangladesh to test the efficacy of the policy and its operationalization.

Excellency, thank you for your attention to this urgent matter and to protecting human rights of girls and women of vulnerable minorities in Bangladesh. Should you need additional information or other materials on this subject, please contact Rajesh Gooty, [rajesh@indiacause.org](mailto:rajesh@indiacause.org), at your convenience. We will appreciate it if you can designate a senior official from your office to follow up with us.