

UPR 16, April 29, 2013
Recommendations by Canada

Bangladesh

Question

In 2009, Bangladesh agreed to review its practices in terms of ensuring judicial independence. Could the delegation of Bangladesh inform us on the progress achieved so far and on upcoming steps relating to this matter, as well as on the involved timeframes for completion of the review and implementation of all necessary steps to fully guarantee judicial independence?

Recommendations

Canada recommends that Bangladesh:

1. Promptly take effective measures to ensure the protection of refugees as well as the respect for their human rights, and provide the UNHCR and other relevant humanitarian actors with access to the sites where large numbers of Rohingya refugees are located.
2. Take active steps to effectively reduce the incidence of early forced marriage, including through the thorough implementation of existing laws such as the *Child Marriage Restraint Act*, the *Dowry Prohibition Act* and the *Prevention of Women and Children Repression Act*.
3. Take measures to ensure that Constitutional and legal protections for religious minorities are upheld and in particular that their places of worship are protected, including from violent attack.
4. Take steps to ensure that civil society can operate without intimidation and to ensure freedom of the press, including for independent media.

Observations (if time permits)

We are concerned about the dangerous working conditions in the ready-made garment sector. We stress the importance for the government to take concrete measures to promote occupational safety, aiming to provide workers with safe and healthy working conditions, and ensuring thorough investigations of work-related accidents and effective interventions by law enforcement officials against negligent employers.