

# Bangla Alert

**Move Forward, not Backward!**

## India Must Stop Killing & Torturing Bangladeshis

Human Rights Watch (HRW), an international human rights body, has urged the government of India to stop human rights violations by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) along the Bangladesh border and prosecute those responsible. Human Rights Watch has also asked Bangladesh government to take a stronger stand with the Indian government to stop the killing and torture of Bangladeshis.

HRW recalled that in December 2010 it released the report "Trigger Happy", which documented the excessive use of force by the Indian Troops at the Bangladesh border as well as nearly 1,000 killings by the BSF over the last decade.

Human rights activists charge that the BSF is committing grave abuses on these desperate people, including torture and murder, in defiance of the laws of both countries and a violation of promises made earlier to exercise restraint.

India is constructing a 2,500-mile wall of concrete and barbed wire on the Bangladesh border costing \$1.2 billion.

### References:

- The latest report of Human Rights Watch: India: Abuses by Border Force Increasing: <http://tinyurl.com/7ub8oeg>
- Read the earlier report by Human Rights Watch: Trigger Happy: <http://tinyurl.com/89ce6vu>

### Action Items

**Call & Write to the Indian Ambassador:** Ask her that the Prime Minister of India form a high level commission to investigate these crimes. Tell her that as an American you are dismayed at the report of torture and murder by the BSF.

- o Contact info:
  - Ambassador Mrs. Nirupama Rao: (202) 939-7000 • Fax: (202) 265-4351: Web: <http://tinyurl.com/7rodcy2>
  - Please select Ambassador from drop down menu

### Call Anti-Torture Groups:

Call anti-torture groups to look into the torture of Bangladeshi refugees by the Indian Border Security Forces. Get their email and send them the report of Human Rights Watch.

- o Contact info:
  - National Religious Campaign Against Torture: (t) 202.547.1920 • <http://www.nrcat.org/>
  - Physicians for Human Rights: 202.728.5335 • <http://physiciansforhumanrights.org/>

### Call and write to Bangladeshi Ambassador to the US

- Contact info: H.E. Akramul Qader 202-244-2745 <http://tinyurl.com/86ybwg4>
- o Ask if he has read the Human Rights Watch report asking Bangladesh to take a stronger stand with India to stop border killing and torture by Indian BSF. Ask him to inform the foreign office that Bangladeshi Americans want them to take a stronger stand to safeguard the lives of Bangladeshis

**Copy and distribute this alert to your friends and relatives.**

### BD Alert

We work together as a small network to help Bangladesh move forward instead of sliding backward because of political conflicts. Whether you're ready to lend a hand at one of our activities or have photos or articles to share about Bangladesh moving forward, here's the place to do it.

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