

Press Release 12th March, 2025

## 92 Incidents of Attacks Targeting Minorities and Indigenous Communities: Oikya Parishad

In a press release issued by the Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council, it has been reported that violence against religious and ethnic minorities and indigenous communities continues unabated, as in the past. In the first two months of this year, January and February, a total of 92 incidents of violence targeting minorities and indigenous communities have occurred. These include 11 murders, 3 cases of rape, 25 attacks on temples, 1 allegation of religious disrespect, 6 attacks on indigenous communities, 38 incidents of attacks, vandalism, and looting of homes and businesses, 2 cases of job dismissals, and 6 other attacks.

It is worth noting that from 4th August to 31st December last year, a total of 2,184 incidents of attacks targeting minorities were reported. These included 32 murders, 133 attacks on places of worship, 13 cases of sexual abuse and rape of hindu and indegenous women, 1,906 incidents of attacks, vandalism, looting, and arson on homes and businesses, 47 cases of land and business occupation, 38 incidents of physical assault, and 15 arrests on allegations of so-called religious disrespect. Detailed reports of these incidents were shared with the public through press conferences on 19th September, 2024, and 30th January, 2025.

## **Leaders visit incident sites**

On the night of 9th March, a representative team led by the Acting General Secretary of the Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council, Monindra Kumar Nath, visited the site of a brutal murder and gold looting in Noyarhat Bazar, Ashulia, Savar, Dhaka. The victim, Dilip Das, a gold trader, was mercilessly killed. The delegation included Joint General Secretary Rabindra Nath Basu, Youth Unity Council Office Secretary Sujit Kumar Ghosh, Dhaka District Committee General Secretary Pradeep Kumar Das, Ashulia Puja Celebration Committee President Ashis Nag, General Secretary Shambhu Sarkar, and other local leaders. The leaders expressed their condolences to the wife and family of Dilip Das and demanded the immediate arrest of the perpetrators, ensuring exemplary punishment through a fair trial. During the visit, the leaders met with Additional Police Superintendent (DB) Tarikul Islam, who was present at the scene, and urged him to ensure a proper investigation into the murder. Additionally, the delegation visited the site in Bashbari village under Ashulia Thana where the land of Santosh Bhattacharya's house is allegedly being illegally occupied by a certain Jahangir Alam.

Message delivered by

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