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BDP/UNESCO/IPDC/13

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**Subject: Status of legal investigations into the killings of journalists in Bangladesh**

**Dear Ms. Sylvie Coudray:**

Please refer to the letter No. CI/FEM/FOE/fr/2016/44 dated 29 February 2016 from Mr. Guy Berger, Director of the Division for Freedom of Expression and Media Development, addressed to H. E. Mr. M Shahidul Islam, Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Bangladesh to UNESCO on the above mentioned subject.

The status of the journalists killed in Bangladesh that were subjected to the condemnations of the Director General is attached.

Additional information on these cases will be communicated to you as and when available.

The Permanent Delegation of Bangladesh wishes to take this opportunity to reiterate Bangladesh's unwavering commitment to the freedom of expression and safety of journalists.

**Enclosed: As stated**

  
(Farhana Ahmed Chowdhury)  
First Secretary

Ms Sylvie Coudray,  
Chief of the Section for Freedom of Expression in the Communication and Information Sector,  
UNESCO Headquarters,  
7, Place to Fontenoy, 75007 Paris

**Copy:** 1) Ms Saorla McCabe, Programme Specialist  
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**BANGLADESH LIST OF UNRESOLVED JOURNALIST KILLINGS CONDEMNED BY  
UNESCO'S DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR THE PERIOD 2006-2015**

	<b>Name of journalist/blogger</b>	<b>Status of judicial investigation</b>
1.	Bellal Hossain Dafadar Killed 15-Sept-2006	The investigation has been completed. The investigation officer has submitted charge sheet against 13 persons. The case is now being tried in the Court of Additional District and Session Judge, Satkhira. Deposition of witnesses is going on.
2.	Meherun Runi Killed 11-Feb-2012	The investigation of the case is underway.
3.	Sagar Sarwar Killed: 11-Feb-2012	The investigation of the case is underway.
4.	Jamal Uddin Killed: 15-Jun-2012	Investigation of the case has been completed and charge sheet has been submitted to the Court of District and Session Judge against five suspects.
5.	Avijit Roy Killed 26-Feb-2015	FBI has been helping the law enforcement agencies of Bangladesh in investigation. Various evidences have been sent to FBI laboratory in the US for analysis. It would be easier for the concerned departments to solve the case and identify the perpetrators once the examination report and expert opinion from FBI is received.  One suspect has so far been detained in this case.
6.	Washiqur Rahman Killed: 30-Mar-2015	The case is now at trial stage. After due investigation, police brought charges against five (5) persons. Three of the accused were captured on the spot. They have confessed their crime before the Court under section 164 of the CRPC.
7.	Ananta Bijoy Das Killed: 12-May-2015	The case is currently at investigation stage. Four, including the prime suspect of the case, have been arrested and the rest three are being pursued. The arrested individuals have confessed their crime before the Court under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CRPC).

8.	Niloy Chakrabarti (Niloy Neel) Killed: 7-Aug-2015	Five persons have so far been arrested in this case and the rest are being pursued. The case is now at investigation stage with some important clues being discovered.
9.	Faisal Arefin Dipan Killed: 31-Oct-2015	The Court case is ongoing with 12 persons so far giving statement before the Court under section 161 of the CRPC. The Police have collected CCTV footage from the place of incident and has been analyzing them to identify the assailants.