

All forms of violence against children: An international legal obligation of Bangladesh under CRC

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Abstract

In 2013, Bangladesh Government repealed the Children Act, 1974 and enacted a new Act called The Children Act, 2013 with the aim of fulfilling the international obligation under the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)* as well as the decision of the Bangladesh Supreme Court named *State v Md. Roushan Mondal 59 DLR (2007)72*. Bangladesh is running in the path of being a middle income country is now considered globally as an example of incredible progress in issues like child mortality rate, gender disparity, child education and child healthcare in recent years. However, the standard of child protection regarding violence against children is deteriorating repeatedly in spite of adequate number of legal statutes. Throughout the paper, the authors are trying to discuss about several relevant laws regarding children, especially try to give an overview on international obligation of Bangladesh under the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)*. Furthermore, authors are addressed issues like to protect the children from all forms of physical and mental violence, exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices, prevention of sale and trafficking and abduction of children.

Keywords: children, violence, CRC, rights, exploitation

1. Introduction

Children are now treated as a valuable assets of any society and at large who are need to be protected and nurtured because children are the future citizens of the country. Child is a young human being below the age of puberty or below the legal age of majority. Several laws define ‘child’ differently on the basis of age. Age plays a vital role to determine the punishment for the wrong doers against the child, even for giving punishment to the child offender it also an important issue. Children are the most beautiful part of a nation, so any types of violence against them can’t be tolerable. Child rights are well defined in several laws and also in our Constitution as well. According to Article 28(4) of the *Constitution of People’s Republic of Bangladesh*—“allows the State to make special provisions in favour of women and children and for the advancement of “any backward section of citizens”. Subsequently Bangladesh also ratified international conventions regarding child rights. *Convention on the Rights of the Child* provides a guideline for all signatory parties to setup a measurement to stop violence against children. Here, CRC is a guide lining principle, so that it does create a legal obligation on Bangladesh to maintain it. If we want a well future generation, we must focus on our children’s present condition first and we need to provide safe environment for them. Throughout this paper, the authors will discuss about several relevant laws regarding children, especially try to give an overview on international obligation of Bangladesh under the *Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)*. In this paper, the authors also concerned about the absence of the implications of laws and lengthy process of trial of cases on violence against children. According to Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF) a total 3,589 children have been subjected to various types of violence including murder and rape in the year 2016. This cannot be considered as a normal incident and this need be addressed.

Overall in this paper, authors are trying to give an overview on international obligation of Bangladesh under CRC, domestic legal framework on violence against children, to protect the child from all forms of physical and mental violence, exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices, prevention of sale, trafficking and abduction of children and some ethical considerations to prevent violence against children.

2. International Obligation of Bangladesh under CRC

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) was adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession by General Assembly resolution number 44/25 of 20 November 1989 and entry into force from 2 September 1990 respectively ^[1]. The preamble States as recalling that, in the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, the United Nation has proclaimed that childhood is entitled to special care and assistance. Bangladesh signed and ratified *Convention on Rights of the Child (CRC)* on 26 January 1990 and 3 August 1990 correspondingly. While ratifying *UNCRC*, the Government of Bangladesh placed reservation to article 14, paragraph 1. About article 21 Bangladesh maintains that it would apply the provision subject to the existing laws and practices in Bangladesh ^[2]. Bangladesh is also signatory and ratified to (i) *the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography: 2002*, and (ii) *the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict: 2002* ^[3]. But Bangladesh is not signatory to *Optional Protocol to*

¹ *State v Md. Roushan Mondal 59 DLR (2007) 83*.

² United Nations Treaty Collection, Retrieved from- https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtmsg_no=IV-11&chapter=4&clang=_en#EndDec, last visited date- 13/07/2019.

³ ‘Status of Ratification Interactive Dashboard’, UNHR, Retrieved from- <http://indicators.ohchr.org/>, last visited date- 13/07/2019.

the *Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure: 2014* [4]. Bangladesh follows the doctrine of incorporation which means that international treaty provisions will not be automatically incorporated and applied in the domestic legal system until a statute would be adopted to give the treaty provisions effect at domestic level, like other common law countries.

3. Domestic Legal Framework on Violence against Children

The *Constitution of Peoples Republic of Bangladesh* consider as the highest law of the land. The Constitution of Bangladesh contains explicit guarantees of a wide range of Fundamental Rights. It secures the right of remedy for the violation of these rights by way of a constitutional petition before the Supreme Court under Article 102. Article 28 of the *Constitution* allows the legislature to enact special provisions in favour of the children of Bangladesh. The *Children Act, 2013* that expressly aim at giving effect to the mandate of CRC. The preamble to the *Children Act, 2013* ('the Act'), officially known as the *Shishu Ain, 2013* states that it has been enacted for the purpose of implementing the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), 1989*. There are also a number of acts that include provisions support the obligations of *UNCRC*. Those are-

- The Children Act, 2013
- The Prevention of Cruelty to Women and Children Act, 2000
- The Narcotic Control Act, 1990
- The Rights and Protection of the Person with Disabilities Act, 2013
- The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012
- The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2010
- The Pornography Control Act, 2012
- The Information and Communication Technology Act, 2006
- The Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006
- The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2017

The *Constitution* has, in several provisions, including Article 15 and Article 17 imposed on the State a primary responsibilities of ensuring that all the needs of children are met and that their human rights are fully protected.

4. Definition of Violence under CRC

"Violence" is understood to mean "all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse" as listed in article 19, paragraph 1, of the *Convention* [5]. In common parlance the term violence is often understood to mean only physical harm. However, the State should give more emphasize on non-physical and/or non-intentional forms of harm neglect and psychological maltreatment as well. Protection from all forms of violence must be considered in terms of the child's right to "life", "survival", and their right to "development" [6].

⁴ *Ibid*

⁵ Retrieved from- https://www.unicef-irc.org/portfolios/general_comments/CRC.C.GC.13_en.doc.html, Last visited date- 15/07/2019

⁶ 'Violence against children monitoring and indicators', at p. 25, Retrieved from-

Development should be interpreted in its broadest sense as a holistic concept, embracing the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral, psychological and social development [7]. Implementation measures should be aimed at achieving the optimal development for all children.

5. A Legal Analysis of Article 19 of CRC

Article 19 is one of the main provisions in the *Convention* which is directly relating to violence. The CRC Committee also recognizes in their general comment that the direct relevance to article 19 of the *Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict* [8]. "Forms of violence" mentioned in Article 19 of the *UNCRC* can be witnessed by the both girls and boys and they are at risk of all forms of violence, but violence often has a gender component. For example, girls may experience more sexual violence at home than boys whereas boys may be more likely to encounter and experience violence within the criminal justice system [9]. Regarding "Mental Violence", as referred to in the *Convention*, is often described as psychological maltreatment, mental abuse, verbal abuse and emotional abuse or neglect like all forms of persistent harmful interactions with the child, for example, conveying to children that they are worthless, unloved, unwanted, endangered [10]. Furthermore, Physical violence includes fatal and non-fatal physical violence. The CRC Committee is of the opinion that physical violence includes: All corporal punishment and all other forms of Torture, Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or punishment and Physical bullying and hazing by adults and by other children [11].

6. Domestic Coordinating Legal Framework on Violence against Children

The coordinating framework can provide a common frame of reference and a mechanism for communication among Government Ministries and also for State and Civil Society actors at all levels with regard to take measures for preventing violence against children. Article 4 obliges States parties to undertake all appropriate measures to implement all the rights in the *Convention*, including article 19 [12]. In applying article 4 of the *UNCRC Convention*, it must be noted that the right to protection from all forms of violence outlined in article 19 is a civil right and freedom [13]. Implementation of article 19 is therefore an immediate and unqualified obligation of States parties. In the light of article 4, whatever their economic circumstances, States are required to undertake all possible measures towards the realization of the rights of the child, paying special attention to the most disadvantaged groups.

<https://www.unicef.org/turkey/media/3656/file/VIOLENCE%20AGAINST%20CHILDREN%20Monitoring%20and%20Indicators%20Literature%20Review.pdf>, last visited date- 21/07/2019.

⁷ *Ibid*

⁸ Unicef (for every child), Retrieved from- https://www.unicef-irc.org/portfolios/general_comments/CRC.C.GC.13_en.doc.html, last visited date-15/07/2019

⁹ *Ibid*

¹⁰ *Ibid*

¹¹ *Ibid*

¹² *Ibid*

¹³ *Ibid*

6. Definition of Child

In Bangladesh, determination of age is a significant issues like prevention of child marriage, protection of child workers, contractual obligations, and for determining the minimum age of criminal responsibility. According to Article 1 of the *UN Convention on the Rights of Child (UNCRC)*, a “child” means every human being below the age of eighteen years. *The Children Act, 2013* has been enacted repealing with the effect of the earlier Children Act, 1974. Section 4 of this Act defines a ‘child’ as a person below the age of 18. However, there are other Acts that define ‘child’ differently than the CRC. *The Pornography Act, 2012* adopted the definition of child as provided in the *Children Act, 1974*. *The Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006* defines a ‘child’ as a person below the age of 14 and *The Prevention of Cruelty to Women and Children Act, 2000* defines a ‘child’ as a person under the age of 16 and clarify the term ‘child’ under the Act to include male children specifically. So there must be a presence of uniformed definition for a child for fulfilling the obligation under CRC.

6.2 To protect the child from all forms of Physical and Mental Violence

According to Article 19 of the *UNCRC*, States Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse. *The Children Act, 2013* provides that if any person having custody of any child is proved guilty of assault, abuse, neglect, desertion or making a child work for his personal purpose, or exposes the child in an indecent way and thereby causes unnecessary suffering or injury which impairs the child’s sight or hearing or inflicts injury to any limbs or organs or causes mental injury; he will be punished with imprisonment up to five years or fine or both^[14]. In addition, exploitation of a child by a person entrusted with the care of a child under an order of the juvenile court or, by a person who obtains custody of the child by promising to employ him in a factory or any other institutions has been made punishable with two years’ imprisonment^[15]. Working children, particularly those in ‘unseen jobs’ such as child domestic labour, are at risk of abuse and exploitation. Child domestic workers are highly vulnerable to abuse^[16]. Newspaper reporting on violence against Child Domestic Workers (CDWs) in all forms still remains unchanged. 14 domestic working children came on the newspaper for beaten by their employers and 5 child domestic workers killed in 2017^[17]. A total of 13 suspicious deaths or suicide of CDW cases were recorded in 2017^[18]. In most cases of the suspicious death of CDWs, it is assumed that, CDWs were killed after torture and hanged, afterwards claimed suicide by the employer^[19].

As regards violence to girls- children, a recent Demographic and Health Survey found in Bangladesh the girl-children who married before age 18 were more likely than those who

married later to be subjected to physical violence by their partners^[20]. The incidences of violence by partner are particularly high in Bangladesh (47 per cent)^[21]. More than 1 in 10 adolescent girls surveyed in Bangladesh reported partner sexual violence. About one in five girls aged between 15-19 reported violence by partners^[22]. Child Marriage Restraint Act requires strict enforcement and monitoring by local police and administration that the special provision for girls marriage before 18, is not used in general cases. But the National Parliament of Bangladesh passed the *Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2017* with a special provision that allows a boy or a girl to get married before reaching the statutory age limit in some exceptional cases^[23]. One of the major concerns of the civil society and women’s rights activists regarding this law is the provision that allows marriage under the statutory minimum age^[24]. As per section 19 of the Act, a child marriage would not be considered an offense if it was for the interest of the underage girl^[25]. However, this has to be done in line with the directives of a court, with the consent of the parents, and following due procedure^[26]. About this issue, Critics are concerned about the potential abuse of this provision in Bangladesh.

According to Article 34 of CRC, States Parties undertake to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. Rape, attempt to rape, sexual harassment and assault, killed after rape, eve teasing and victim of pornography those are the forms of sexual abuse against children. In Bangladesh, there are numerous laws to protect the child from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. Sexual intercourse with a girl child under the age of 16 with or without consent has been defined as rape and punished with rigorous imprisonment for life and with fine^[27]. However, this provision does not apply to a married girl child under the age of 16 because the *Penal Code 1860* provides that sexual intercourse by a man with his own wife not being under thirteen years of age is not rape^[28]. Death of a girl child as a result a rape or subjecting a girl child to gang rape has been made punishable with death sentence and with fine. Rape of a girl child in police custody has been made punishable also under the law. Sexual oppression of child is committed when anyone in furtherance of his sexual desire touches the sexual organs or other organs of a child and it has been made punishable with rigorous imprisonment and also with fine^[29].

Despite of numerous laws to protect the child from sexual exploitation children are at risk of abuse or harassment in their own homes, from relatives and family ‘friends’ as well^[30]. While disadvantaged and disabled children are more

²⁰ UNICEF, Hidden In Plain Sight, September 2014, p. 131

²¹ *Ibid*, at p 136

²² *Ibid*, at p139

²³ Shyikh Mahdi, Child Marriage Restraint Act-2017-a brief review, Retrieved from-<https://futrlaw.org/brief-review-child-marriage-restraint-act-2017/>, last visited date- 21/07/2019.

²⁴ *Ibid*

²⁵ *Ibid*

²⁶ *Ibid*

²⁷ Section 9, Prevention of women and children repression Act 2000.

²⁸ Section 375 of the Penal Code.

²⁹ Section 10 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Women and Children Act 2000

³⁰ UNICEF, Child Sexual Abuse, Exploitation and Trafficking in Bangladesh, Retrieved from-http://www.unicef.org/bangladesh/Child_Abuse_Exploitation_and_Trafficking_ing.pdf, last visited date- 13/07/2019.

¹⁴ Section 70 of the Children Act 2013

¹⁵ Section 80(1) of the Children Act 2013

¹⁶ UNICEF, Situation Assessment and Analysis of Children and Women in Bangladesh, Bangladesh Country Office, September 2009, at p. 127

¹⁷ ‘State of child Rights in Bangladesh’, page no- 26 Retrieved from-<http://bsafchild.net/wpcontent/uploads/2018/05/State-of-Child-Rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf>, last visited date- 21/07/2019

¹⁸ *Ibid*

¹⁹ *Ibid*

vulnerable to abuse, it is not limited to them^[31]. Children who live and/or work on the street are especially vulnerable to violence and sexual abuse^[32]. In public areas, some children especially street children, child sex workers, and the children of sex workers are subjected to verbal, physical, and sexual abuse from police, hoodlums and the general public^[33]. Government should reform rape laws to ensure protection and access to justice without discrimination for all rape victims or survivors and should establish a state-run compensation fund to enable rape victims or survivors to apply for compensation as of right on proof of rape, irrespective of the perpetrator being identified and prosecuted for the offence^[34].

The situation of child sexual abuse and exploitations has become deteriorated since past year. Statistics from Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF) show that by 2017, these types of incidents have increased by 30.32%^[35]. According to newspaper reports, total 894 children were subjected to different types of sexual violence in 2017^[36]. In 2016, a total 686 children were victim of such violence. There are 49 children in average has become the victim of rape every month. Even there were 9 incidents were a boy child has become the victim of rape^[37]. The rapists tempted the children with chocolates, toys or gifts and took them to a deserted place^[38]. Children between 13 and 18 years of age were raped with offers of marriage or rapists forced them to go to a secluded place, or they were raped when they were home alone. It is no wonder then, that 66% of patients of rape at the One-Stop Crisis Centre (OCC) are children^[39]. Most of the rape victims were from the poor section of the society who is very vulnerable to get proper justice which inspires the criminals to do such heinous crimes. Only 32 cases of child rape got verdict last year^[40].

6.3 Exploitative Use of Children Regarding Prostitution or Other Unlawful Sexual Activities

According to Article 34(1) (b) of *UNCRC- States Parties* undertake to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. For these purposes, States Parties shall in particular take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent the exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices. *The Prevention of Cruelty to Women and Children Act, 2000* provides that trafficking a girl child with the intention of engaging her in prostitution has been made punishable with death sentence or life imprisonment or rigorous imprisonment^[41]. *The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012* also incorporates a

provision penalizing similar offence but with lesser punishment^[42].

No child above the age of 4 years is allowed to reside in or visit red light districts in terms of *The Children Act, 2013*^[43]. When a child exceeds the age of 4, the concerned authorities should take necessary steps to rehabilitate the child^[44]. Any contravention of this provision has been made punishable with imprisonment up to 2 years or 50000 taka fine or both. Engaging a child in prostitution either by a person entrusted with care of the child under an order of the juvenile court or by a person who obtains custody of the child by promising to employ the child in a factory or any other institutions has been made punishable with imprisonment^[45]. Any person who enjoys gains made as a result of exploitation or employment of a child or who uses the child for immoral entertainment, shall be liable as an abettor of this offence^[46]. In Bangladesh a girl attaining 18 years of age may swear an affidavit stating that she has freely taken up prostitution and such a document has been interpreted as a license to operate in government-recognized brothels (where the police are officially mandated to keep law and order)^[47]. Though prostitution below the age of 18 is illegal, young people below that age have long engaged in it^[48]. However, given the absence of birth registration and manipulation of age, implementation of this requirement has been arbitrary^[49]. Children of women who work as sex workers often end up working there too.

The Pornography Control Act, 2012 has a separate provision for child pornography and any person makes production, distribution, publishing, sale, exhibition or advertisement of child pornography punishable with rigorous imprisonments for a term not exceeding ten years and with fine up to 5, 00,000 in Bangladesh currency^[50]. The Act also provides that contracting, coercing or inducing a child to perform in any pornographic production or taking video, still picture or motion picture for that purpose with or without knowledge of a child is a penal offence punishable with seven years rigorous imprisonment and fine up to 2, 00, 000 taka. There is evidence that children engaged as sex workers are exploited in the production of pornographic materials^[51]. There is also a notable increase of the cases of victim of pornography and wounded by perverts respectively 73% and 77% in 2017 than 2016^[52]. With the popularity of networking sites, a large number of children especially the girls are being abused on the internet. 26 children have become the victim of child pornography last year^[53].

³¹ *Ibid*

³² UNICEF, Situation Assessment and Analysis of Children and Women in Bangladesh, Bangladesh Country Office, September 2009, At p. 14.

³³ *Ibid*, at p.13

³⁴ A call for reform of rape Law to ensure gender-equality, Rights and Justice, National Conference on rape law reform by BLAST, 8 December 2018, Retrieved from <https://www.blast.org.bd/content/events/08-12-2018-Declaration-English.pdf>, last visited on 29/07/2019.

³⁵ *Supra* Note- 19

³⁶ *Ibid*

³⁷ *Ibid*

³⁸ Esra Aurora, Asif Islam shaon, 'Bangladesh experiences disturbing rise in child rape', Retrieved from- <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/crime/2017/12/25/bangladesh-rise-child-rape/>, Last visited date- 13/07/2019

³⁹ *Ibid*

⁴⁰ *Supra* Note No- 19.

⁴¹ Section 5(1), Prevention of women and children repression Act 2000

⁴² Section 11, The prevention and suppression Human Trafficking Act 2012

⁴³Section 77 of the Children Act 2013.

⁴⁴*Ibid*

⁴⁵Section 80 of the Children Act, 2013

⁴⁶ *Ibid*

⁴⁷ JAMACON report on the UN Committee on the rights of the child, Retrieved from- http://nhrc.portal.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/nhrc.portal.gov.bd/page/34-8ec5eb_22f8_4754_bb62_6a0d15ba1513/JAMAKON%20Report%20to%20the%20UN%20Committee%20on%20the%20Rights%20of%20the%20Child.pdf, Last visited date- 17/07/2019.

⁴⁸ *Ibid*

⁴⁹ *Ibid*

⁵⁰Section 8, The Pornography Control Act, 2012

⁵¹ UNICEF, Sexual Abuse and Commercial Exploitation of Children: Elements for a National Strategy and Plan of Action, Bangladesh Country office, March 2011, at p. 45

⁵² *Supra* Note No-19.

⁵³ *Ibid*, at p. 23

6.4 Prevention of Sale, Trafficking and Abduction of Children in Bangladesh

The Prevention of Cruelty to Women and Children Act 2000 provides that traffic in child is punishable with death or rigorous imprisonment for life^[54]. Kidnapping of a newborn baby has been made punishable with similar sentence^[55]. *The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012* provides that kidnapping of a newborn baby for the purpose of human trafficking is punishable with imprisonment for life or with rigorous imprisonment for a term not less than 5 years. The Statistics from Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF) show that incidents of rescue of unknown dead body of newborn child have also decreased in 2017 by 14%^[56]. A total of 188 children were missing in 2017, among them 75 found dead after missing where only 20 has been reported as rescued after missing^[57]. However, the effectiveness of *The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012* Act has been minimal. The conviction rate under the Act is extremely low. According to police reports, the conviction rate between 2013 and 2019 is 0.4%. Only 25 out of the total cases filed resulted in convictions^[58]. Moreover, no tribunal as required by the Act has yet been formed, significantly reducing the access to justice for trafficking in persons^[59]. Trafficking in women, men, girls, and boys internal and international takes place in Bangladesh mainly for commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor^[60]. *The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012* provides that the Government will frame rules in order for identification, rescue, repatriation and rehabilitation of the victims of human trafficking^[61]. The Government will take initiatives to return any Bangladeshi nationals who would be found as a victim of human trafficking in a foreign country^[62]. Bangladesh Embassy should take initiatives to provide legal assistance to those victims who are compelled to stay in foreign countries^[63]. Although the GoB has undertaken commendable measures to combat trafficking in women and children its capacity to address trafficking remains limited, especially in regard to victim protection and prevention of internal trafficking^[64]. The cases related human trafficking tend to be lengthy and sometimes the traffickers somehow manage to reach illegal out-of-court settlements with the victims or their families^[65]. In addition, shelter homes for trafficking victims are poorly equipped to provide psycho-social services to the victims and even some shelter homes have been criticized for their failure to recognize residents' dignity, privacy, and right to mobility^[66].

⁵⁴ Section 6, Prevention of women and children repression Act 2000

⁵⁵ *Ibid*

⁵⁶ Supra Note No-19

⁵⁷ *Ibid*

⁵⁸ Compiled by Law Desk, Let's act to prevent human trafficking, The Daily Star, 30th July, 2019, Retrieved from <https://www.thedailystar.net/law-our-rights/news/lets-act-prevent-human-trafficking-1778899>, last visited date 30/07/2019.

⁵⁹ *Ibid*

⁶⁰ UNICEF, Situation Assessment and Analysis of Children and Women in Bangladesh, Bangladesh Country Office, September 2009, at p. 14

⁶¹ The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012, Section 32

⁶² The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012, Section 33

⁶³ *Ibid*

⁶⁴ Ministry of Home Affairs, Combating Human Trafficking, Bangladesh Country Report, 2012, at p.9

⁶⁵ *Ibid*, at p.132

⁶⁶ *Ibid*

7. Conclusion

Bangladesh ratified the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)* and as a signatory to the Convention Bangladesh is duty bound to reflect the articles of the CRC in our national Law which we discussed earlier. We have the opinion that time is ripe for our legislature to enact more laws in conformity with the *UNCRC*. We feel that if the goal of the State is to protect the children from all forms of violence, who are our treasure and future generations, need to implement the laws in a more effective way so that we can ensure a safe and exploitive free society for our future generation.

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