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Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”

Statement submitted by Barisal Unnyon Sangstha (BUS), a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



Statement

Dowry demand, unregistered marriage, early marriage, polygamy, illegal divorce, severe torture of women, homicide, early forced marriage of girls are all common practices in Bangladesh and faced by the Bangladesh Government. In the family level, women are deprived and tortured and it is the biggest cause for their poverty as well.

Rural women in Bangladesh, who are mainly housewives, are continuously oppressed and tortured by their husbands or family members through various means. Girls are deprived and neglected of education and carry the bulk of the load of the family in comparison to boys. In the rural area unregistered marriage creates a lot of problems in the lives of women and leads to frequent illegal forced marriage and polygamy by the husbands especially among the poor people. Domestic violence against women includes beaten physically, torture, oppression, constant nagging, constant dowry demand etc.
