

PRESS STATEMENT PRESS STATEMENT PRESS STATEMENT PRESS STATEMENT

## Lord Avebury condemns the killings of secular political leadership in Bangladesh

At the meeting of the Steering Committee of 'European Human Rights Conference on Bangladesh' held on Wed 23 Feb 2005 at 1 Abbey Garden, London SW1A 0AA, chaired by Lord Avebury, Vice Chairman of Parliamentary Human Rights Group, the following statement was issued.

This meeting is concerned at the deterioration of law & order and the increase in violence in Bangladesh, especially the recent spate of bombings, which killed former diplomat & former finance minister of Bangladesh, Mr Shah A M S Kibria on 27 Jan 2005.

This meeting condemns the killings of political leadership & individuals and offers condolences to the bereaved family members. This meeting particularly deploras the murder of 21 political activists at the Awami League Rally on 21 August 2004, including women activist Mrs Ivy Rahman and labour leader Ahsanullah Master MP.

Furthermore, this meeting demands an independent investigation into these bomb attacks and that the perpetrators are brought to justice. This meeting notes with alarm that no successful prosecution has been conducted against the perpetrators of any of the bomb & grenade attacks in Bangladesh over the last three years.

Name/signed	Organisation
Lord Avebury	Vice Chairman of Parliamentary Human Rights Group
Sultan Shariff	National Coordinating Committee for the Realisation of Bangladesh Liberation War Ideals & Trials of Bangladesh War Criminals of 1971
Shofiqur Rahman Chowdhury	Bangladesh Welfare Association
Nora Shariff	Educationalist
Ansar Ahmed Ullah	UK Committee for Resisting Killers & Collaborators of Bangladesh War of 1971
Biswajit Chanda	SOAS, University of London
Samir Das	Bangladesh Hindu Buddhists Christian Unity Council
Paban Barua	Bangladesh Hindu Buddhists Christian Unity Council
DR C R Das	Bangladesh Human Rights Congress
Md Abdul Hadi	Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK
Sujit Sen	Bangladesh Hindu Buddhists Christian Unity Council