

Timeline: National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in Bangladesh

Mid-1990s- Efforts began to establish a National Human Rights Commission law in Bangladesh, with discussions and initiatives emerging from government and civil society.

11 January 2007- The caretaker government assumed office, which later initiated the formal process of establishing the human rights commission.

1 September 2008- The National Human Rights Commission Ordinance 2007 was promulgated for the first time. This created the legal framework for establishing the commission.

December 2008- Before the national election, the **National Human Rights Commission was formally constituted**, and the **Chairperson and members were appointed**.

6 January 2009- Before leaving office, the caretaker government had already **prepared a draft ordinance for the commission**, and the commission was functioning under the ordinance.

4 July 2009- The **National Human Rights Commission Act, 2009** was passed at the 9th Parliament of Bangladesh. This replaced the earlier ordinance. The law was **retrospectively effective from 1 September 2008**.

2009–2024- The NHRC **operated under the National Human Rights Commission Act, 2009**, during the Awami League government.

7 November 2024- The **Interim Government abolished the National Human Rights Commission** and no commission was formed.

13 September 2025- **Draft NHRC Ordinance unveiled** by the Interim Government

9 November 2025- **NHRC Ordinance, 2025 (main ordinance) published** as a Gazette

8 December 2025- **NHRC (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 published** as an Extraordinary Gazette.