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Avenue de la Gare 29Blvd. Louis Schmidt 58 66, Inglehurst Gardens 1870 Monthey

Brussels 1040

Redbridge, Essex 1G4

Switzerland

Belgium

SHE London, UK

Tel.+Fax: +41244721586 Tel: +32494721934

Tel+Fax:+44208551060

bhinuc.europe@yahoo.com www.bhinuc-europe.org

## Fourth Session of the Forum on Minority Issues

Guaranteeing the rights of minority women

Dates: 29 and 30 November 2011 Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

## Subject: Guaranteeing the rights of minority women

Submitted by: Mr. Amarendra Roy, President of BHBCUC Europe and Director Human Rights Congress for Bangladesh Minorities (HRCBM).

## Statement as on the recording:

Honourable President, honourable madam chair, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon. Thank you for giving me chance to say about the rights of minorities women of Bangladesh on behalf of Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council and Human Rights Council for Bangladesh Minority.

The general profile of minority women are that they are economically deprived has less access to

The general profile of minority women are that they are economically deprived, has less access to resources, are progressively losing their land, and properties. Treated as victims to socio-economic and cultural and political discrimination, harrassment and constantly struggling for their survival and identity. There are XX XX of struggle for development of women, issues amongst the minority community and our side of the community. Poverty, insecurity, lack of access and justice awareness are common hindrance for development. Forced conversion to Muslim has also been suffered the Hindu community for getting proper justice and act need for requirement or for spatial facilities. Madam, I will give up one paragraph which is women's situation in Bangladesh general overview, then I come to the data, minority women's victim from January to September 2011. Rape victims 13, gang0rape 12, murder after death 2, attempt to rape 15, sexual harrassment 2, sexual insult 2, acid burn 1, death after acid burn 1, kidnapping and abducting 106, murder for dowery 5, torture for dowery 13, physical insult 53, murder 22, attempted to murder 4, attempted suicide 2, child marriage 4, torure by police 3, forced conversion to Muslim 7, physical and physcological torture 32, martial rape 13, total 197 victims from January to September, and many more in the dark.

There are also a lot of national law protecting women of Bangladesh but very few minority women are getting law. Here are my suggestions; the family courts should be equal rights to the religion, governments should amend customary hereditary law which recommended woman property inhertiance law, government should formalise the national law become strong minority woman community, government should establish separate rehabilitation centre for minority women victims, governments should set up the minority rights commission and separate ministry for minority welfare, governments should take action against the perpetrators of kind of violations of womens' rights. Lastly I would like to say thank you to listening to me, thank you very much.