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2.2. Legislative changes and other decisions

Soon after the fall of the former government, the interim government ratified the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED),97 and also issued an ‘immunity order’ for protesters, who ‘will not face prosecution, arrest, or harassment for their acts’ in the period 15 July–8 August 2024.98 It furthermore lifted a recent ban on the political party Jamaat-e-Islami,99 while banning the Chhatra League.100

Later the interim government also temporarily banned all activities of the Awami League under the Anti-Terrorism Act.101 The Election Commission consequently barred the Awami League from running in elections.102 This prohibition is reportedly ‘temporary’, and the interim government also amended the International Crimes (Tribunal) Act of 1973, ‘which gives the Tribunal broad powers to prosecute and dismantle political organizations’.103 Meanwhile, the Supreme Court lifted its election ban on Jamaat-e-Islami.104

The Women and Children Repression Prevention Act has also been amended, inter alia to speed up trials on rape cases.105

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