within the law and with full respect for international human rights norms. The commission should:

- Be composed of respected members of law enforcement, independent judges and lawyers, and members of Bangladesh's human rights community;
- Include the active participation of independent international experts on law enforcement and human rights;
- Have full access to all relevant government documents, as well as the power to subpoena;
- Provide witness protection as necessary;
- Have a time limit of no more than six months to complete its inquiry and present its report, with concrete recommendations on RAB reform;
- Have the power to make public statements during and after its inquiry, including on the government's response to the commission's recommendations; and
- Have the power at any time during its mandate to publicly recommend the immediate suspension, pending investigation, of any current or former RAB member implicated in serious human rights violations."

When Shekih Hasina said she would take a zero-tolerance policy towards extra-judicial killings most people took it to be yet another empty promise from a politician. She should stick to her word but most importantly her work should be retroactive as well as looking towards the future. If she really meant her zero-tolerance policy then she should empower the home ministry to launch a full-fledged investigation into every single unexplained death in crossfire or while in RABs custody. ■

