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October 6, 2005

The Honorable Condoleezza Rice Secretary of State U.S. Department of State 2201 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Rice,

I wish to associate myself with a letter sent by my colleagues on September 12, 2005 concerning the level of political violence in Bangladesh. I share their concern that if left unaddressed, the spate of violence could have serious consequences for the long-term peace and security of Bangladesh and the region.

In particular, I am concerned about the attacks and assassinations of high profile leaders in Bangladesh such as Sheik Hasina, the leader of the Awami League, Anwar Choudhary, the British High Commissioner, and the devastating January assassination of Shah A.M.S. Kibria, the former Bangladeshi Foreign Secretary, Finance Minister, U.N. Under-Secretary General, and U.N. Special Representative to Cambodia for Humanitarian Relief. This increasing trend was tragically underscored by hundreds of coordinated attacks across Bangladesh in August.

It is imperative that the Department continues to urge the Government of Bangladesh to conduct a thorough and independent investigation into the assassination of Shah Kibria, and I look forward to working with my colleagues and the Department in pursuing this case and the larger issue of political violence in Bangladesh. Thank you for your ongoing attention to this matter.

Very respectfully yours,

mil Dowin

Mike DeWine

United States Senator

CC: Shamsher M. Chowdhury, BB.

Ambassador of Bangladesh to the United States of America