Question for written answer E-009401/2015

to the Commission

Rule 130

Antonio Tajani (PPE), György Hölvényi (PPE) and Jan Olbrycht (PPE)

Subject: Blasphemy law in Bangladesh

In August 2013 the Government of Bangladesh changed the Information and Communication Act, introducing a provision that criminalises acts ‘hurting religious beliefs’. As a consequence, the amendment to the Communication Act has created a sort of blasphemy law in Bangladesh.

In the light of the above:

1. Is the Commission informed about the existence of the aforementioned law in Bangladesh?

2. Has the Commission foreseen any initiative to promote the freedom of expression and belief in Bangladesh, condemning, as a consequence, any laws restricting this right?