

NHRC notice to UP govt

Taking suo motu cognisance of media reports that the Metro Hospital and Heart Institute in Noida was running without a fire safety licence, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Friday issued a notice to the U.P. Chief Secretary, asking for a detailed report within six weeks. “Only the critically ill patients are kept in the ICU. In case if a fire breaks out in such a facility, there are chances of loss of lives as patients are unable to move on their own,” the NHRC said.

NHRC notice to UP govt over fire at Noida hospital

Describing the incident as grave, the NHRC has observed that several similar incidents have occurred in the past, in different parts of the country, where many human lives have been lost.

February 9, 2019

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Friday (February 8) issued a notice to the Uttar Pradesh government over a fire at a hospital in Noida which was functioning "without a fire licence".

The fire had broken out at the Metro Hospitals and Heart Institute on Thursday (February 7), trapping several people inside the multi-storeyed building but no casualty was reported.

"The NHRC has taken suo motu cognisance of media reports about a massive fire which broke out in the intensive care unit (ICU) of the Metro Hospitals and Heart Institute in Sector-12, Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar," it said in a statement.

Reportedly, 66 patients were admitted in the hospital out of which 16 were in the ICU, when the fire broke out, the NHRC said.

No one was seriously injured and all the patients were safely evacuated. Most of them were transferred to the Sector-11 branch of the hospital, which is about 500 metres away, it added.

The commission has issued the notice to the chief secretary, seeking a detailed report in six weeks.

Describing the incident as grave, the NHRC has observed that several similar incidents have occurred in the past, in different parts of the country, where many human lives have been lost.

"Only the critically-ill patients are kept in the ICU of the hospitals. In case of a fire breaks out in such a facility, there are more chances of loss of human lives as the patients are not in a position to move at their own

"It becomes strict responsibility of the hospital administration to take utmost care that the right to life of the patients, admitted in the hospital, is not violated," it added.

The hospital in Sector-12 was functioning without a fire licence that expired over five months ago, officials said on Thursday.

We For News

Metro Hospital Fire: NHRC issues notice to Uttar Pradesh government

February 8, 2019 By [Anushruti Singh](#)

New Delhi, Feb 8: The National Human Rights Commission on Friday issued a notice to Uttar Pradesh government in connection with the fire which had broken out at the Metro Hospital and Heart Institute in Noida yesterday.

The incident took place at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the Hospital.

According to the Chief Fire Officer (CFO), the blaze was brought under control within two hours.

However, there was, no casualty was reported as the hospital management shifted the patients to its branch hospital nearby, in Sector 11.

The fire damaged instruments, furniture and the accessories fitted in the medical centre.

Nangloi stabbing case: NHRC notice to Delhi Police

Press Trust of India | New Delhi Last Updated at February 9, 2019 00:55 IST

The NHRC Friday sent a notice to the Delhi Police chief in connection with the murder of a woman by a man despite she earlier complaining to the police about being harassed by him.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in a statement said it has also asked its the Director General (Investigation) to depute a team from its investigation division to conduct a fact-finding on-the-spot investigation.

"The team is directed to examine all the stakeholders and to obtain necessary records including relevant portion of the general diary of the police station," it said.

The NHRC said it has taken suo motu cognisance of media reports that despite having lodged a complaint with the police about her harassment and blackmailing by the contractor of a shoe factory, a woman worker was stabbed to death by him in front of her house in Nagloi on February 6.

It has observed that the contents of the media reports, if true, amount to gross violation of her human rights.

Accordingly, it has issued a notice to the Commissioner of Police, seeking a detailed report in four weeks.

The police authorities are also directed to provide copies of the general diary of the police station pertaining to the dates when the accused was allegedly kept for two-three days in police lock-up, the rights panels said.

The commission has further observed that going by the contents of the media report, it appears that the victim had "apprehended threat to her life and had approached the police authorities" but instead of taking legal action against the accused by filing an FIR, the police authorities allegedly allowed him to roam freely after giving some verbal warning.

"This act of the police might have encouraged the accused to eliminate the victim without any fear of law. Due to reckless attitude of the police authorities, the victim has been killed by the accused in spite of law enforcing agencies having prior information," the NHRC said quoting reports.

According to reports, carried Friday, the accused contractor was arrested on Thursday morning and a case under IPC Section 302 (murder) was registered against him.

A police officer said the woman had resisted the accused's advances, so he began harassing her at work, on the phone, and near her house.

The Additional DCP (Outer District Delhi) has reportedly said that he had come to know about this complaint now and would conduct an inquiry, if any negligence on the part of any police officer is found, action would be taken, the NHRC said.

NHRC notice to Delhi Police over murder of woman

8 Feb 2019

New Delhi: The National Human Rights Commission has taken suo motu cognizance of media reports that despite having lodged a complaint with the police about her harassment and blackmailing by the contractor of a shoe factory, a woman worker was stabbed to death by him in front of her house in Nagloi, Delhi on the 6th February. It has observed that the contents of the media reports, if true, amount to gross violation of her human rights. Accordingly, it has issued a notice to the Commissioner of Police, Delhi calling for a detailed report in the matter, within four weeks. The police authorities are also directed to provide copies of the General Diary of the police station pertaining to the dates when the accused was allegedly kept for two-three days in police lock-up.

Children work in rat-hole coal mines of Meghalaya: NHRC member

Press Trust of India | Shillong Last Updated at February 8, 2019 17:45 IST

A member of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Friday expressed concern that children are being employed in coal mines of Meghalaya, which was banned by the National Green Tribunal four years ago.

NHRC member Justice P C Ghosh also urged the authorities to stop illegal coal mining to address its impact on environment and for the safety of labourers.

"The tunnels of the mines are called rat-holes because of their small heights. (That is why) children are generally employed in these coal mines," Justice Ghosh said while addressing a workshop on elimination of bonded labour and child labour system here.

Rat-hole mining involves digging of narrow horizontal tunnels, usually 3-4 feet high, for workers to enter and extract coal.

The NHRC member said it has been observed that water floods those mines resulting in the death of many, as in the case of one in East Jaintia Hills district recently.

He hoped that the authorities have taken steps to address the difficulties being faced by the affected labourers' families.

The state government has provided Rs 1 lakh interim relief to the family members of those labourers trapped in the illegal coal mine.

Altogether 15 labourers had been trapped in that flooded mine in December and till now, only one body could be retrieved. Water had gushed into the mine from a nearby river after breaking a wall.

The divers of the Navy and the NDRF had retrieved the body last month using an underwater remotely operated vehicle (ROV).

Though another body was detected by the ROV, it could not be retrieved and has apparently been lost again in the turbid water inside deep into the mine, operation spokesperson R Susngi said.

At present, the Navy is operating the ROV round the clock while dewatering processes by various agencies is continuing side by side, he said.

The coal mine owner Krip Chullet was arrested on December 14, a day after the accident took place. Two more persons allegedly involved in operating the mine are on the run.

Children work in rat-hole coal mines of Meghalaya: NHRC

February 8, 2019

Shillong, February 8 (PTI): A member of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Friday expressed concern that children are being employed in coal mines of Meghalaya, which was banned by the National Green Tribunal four years ago. NHRC member Justice P C Ghosh also urged the authorities to stop illegal coal mining to address its impact on environment and for the safety of labourers.

“The tunnels of the mines are called rat-holes because of their small heights. (That is why) children are generally employed in these coal mines,” Justice Ghosh said while addressing a workshop on elimination of bonded labour and child labour system here. Rat-hole mining involves digging of narrow horizontal tunnels, usually 3-4 feet high, for workers to enter and extract coal. The NHRC member said it has been observed that water floods those mines resulting in the death of many, as in the case of one in East Jaintia Hills district recently.

He hoped that the authorities have taken steps to address the difficulties being faced by the affected labourers’ families. The state government has provided Rs 1 lakh interim relief to the family members of those labourers trapped in the illegal coal mine. Altogether 15 labourers had been trapped in that flooded mine in December and till now, only one body could be retrieved. Water had gushed into the mine from a nearby river after breaking a wall.

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The coal mine owner Krip Chullet was arrested on December 14, a day after the accident took place. Two more persons allegedly involved in operating the mine are on the run.

Meghalaya Deputy Chief Minister Prestone Tynsong on Friday admitted the prevalence of child labour in the state but said a mechanism has been put in place to ensure that the state is completely free of the social malaise. Tynsong also hit out at an NGO for its claim to have detected 70,000 cases of child labour in the coal mines of the northeastern state. “The government does not say that there is no child labour here. We do have. But the fact is that a mechanism is now in place.

“We have constituted district task forces headed by deputy commissioners and there is enough manpower. Labour inspectors are posted in each of the 46 blocks and we hope that the state will be a child labour free state,” he said. The deputy chief

minister was addressing a workshop, jointly organized by the National Human Rights Commission and the states labour department, on the eradication of bonded labour and child labour. During 2010-11, the Planning Commission had asked for a clarification from the state government on a report of a city-based NGO, which claimed to have detected over 70,000 children working in the coal mines, the deputy chief minister said.

He said the cabinet had taken up the matter and a report was sought within a week. "When the report came, it was found to be untrue. I do not know how they (NGO) collected the information," he said.

Labour Commissioner B Mawlong said the NGO report was "far-fetched" but admitted that instances of child labour have been detected from time to time in Jaintia Hills district. Labour inspectors have conducted over 31,600 inspections and a state protocol on child labour has been published on how to prevent, rescue children from getting forced into labour and also to assist the victims, Mawlong said.