



# NHRC notice to Telangana over workers' death

## 10 MGNREGA workers died after an embankment caved on them in Narayanpet

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

Terming the incident, if true, a serious human rights' violation, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Thursday issued a notice to the Telangana government over the death of 10 women MGNREGA workers when an embankment caved on them in the Narayanpet district.

Taking suo motu cognisance of a media report, the NHRC issued a notice to the



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NHRC

the Chief Secretary of the State government asking for a detailed report about the incident as well as action taken against those responsible and the relief provided to victims' families. The NHRC asked for the reply in four weeks.

"The Commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, raise a serious issue of violation of the right. Poor villagers, who are not skilled workers and need a job to earn their livelihood, do opt to work under MGNREGA scheme," an NHRC statement read.

### No precaution taken

The NHRC observed that the possibility of negligence on the part of the contractor and the department con-

cerned cannot be ruled out. "It seems that neither any precaution was taken by the authorities nor any kind of help was available on the spot. Had some safety measures been taken, ten human lives could perhaps be saved," the NHRC said.

According to the report, the 10 women were digging a canal when the embankment caved on them. Other workers tried to rescue them, but by the time they cleared the mud, they died.

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April 12, 2019

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# Business Standard

## **NHRC sends notice to Telangana government over death of 10 women labourers**

ANI | General News Last Updated at April 11, 2019 21:55 IST

The National Human Rights Commission(NHRC ) has sent a notice to Telangana government after taking suo motu cognizance of a media report that "at least 10 women working under the MGNREGA scheme died when an embankment caved in on them in Narayanpet district."

The Commission has issued a notice to the Chief Secretary, Government of Telangana, asking him to submit a detailed report of the tragic incident including action taken against the guilty, relief and rehabilitation to the families of the victims and status of the safety measures at such sites where deep digging is conducted.

The NHRC has sought the response within four weeks.

"Poor villagers, who are not skilled workers and need a job to earn their livelihood, do opt to work under the MGNREGA scheme," said the NHRC.

"The deceased, no doubt, belonged to the poorest strata, the way, the embankment has collapsed and negligence on the part of the contractor and the department concerned cannot be ruled out."

"It seems that neither any precaution was taken by the authorities nor any kind of help was available on the spot. Had some safety measures been taken, ten human lives could perhaps be saved," said the NHRC.

According to media reports, while digging a canal in a village in Narayanpet district of Telangana, the fellow workers of the victims reportedly tried to rescue them but by the time they cleared about five feet of mud and pulled them out, all of them were dead.

## **Death of 10 MGNREGA women workers: NHRC notice to Telangana govt**

Apr 11, 2019

New Delhi: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Thursday issued a notice Telangana government over the death of 10 MGNREGA women workers in Narayanpet district.

Taking suo motu cognizance of a media report that 10 women working under the MGNREGA scheme died when an embankment caved in on them in Narayanpet district of Telangana on Wednesday, the Commission has issued a notice to Telangana Chief Secretary.

The commission directed the Chief Secretary to submit a detailed report of the tragic incident including action taken against guilty, relief and rehabilitation to the families of the victims and status of the safety measures at such sites where deep digging is conducted, within four weeks.

The Commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, raise a serious issue of violation of the right. Poor villagers, who are not skilled workers and need a job to earn their livelihood, do opt to work under the MGNREGA scheme.

The deceased, no doubt, belonged to the poorest strata, the way, the embankment has collapsed and negligence on the part of the contractor and the department concerned cannot be ruled out.

It seems that neither any precaution was taken by the authorities nor any kind of help was available on the spot. Had some safety measures been taken, ten human lives could perhaps be saved.

According to today's media report, when the workers under MGNREGA were digging a canal in a village in Narayanpet district of Telangana. The fellow workers of the victims reportedly tried to rescue them but by the time they cleared about five feet of mud and pulled them out, all of them were dead.

# The Print

## **NHRC asks Telangana govt to submit a report on deaths of 10 MGNREGA workers**

*Women working under the MGNREGA scheme were buried alive & another was injured when a mound of mud fell on them in Narayanpet district Wednesday.*

**PTI** Updated: 11 April, 2019 8:10 pm IST

**New Delhi:** The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued a notice to the Telangana government after 10 women working under the MGNREGA scheme were buried alive when a mound of mud fell on them in Narayanpet district.

Taking a serious note of the incident, the Commission has asked the chief secretary to submit a report of the incident, including action taken against guilty, relief and rehabilitation to the families of the victims and status of the safety measures at such sites where deep digging is conducted.

It has sought a response within four weeks.

The women working under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme were buried alive and another was injured when a mound of mud fell on them at a village in Narayanpet district on Wednesday.

The incident, the Commission observed, raise a serious issue of violation of the right.

“Poor villagers, who are not skilled workers and need a job to earn their livelihood, do opt to work under MGNREGA scheme. The deceased, no doubt, belonged to the poorest strata, the way, the embankment has collapsed and negligence on the part of the contractor and the department concerned cannot be ruled out.

“It seems that neither any precaution was taken by the authorities nor any kind of help was available on the spot. Had some safety measures been taken, ten human lives could perhaps be saved,” the Commission observed.

## **Human rights panel seeks report on mound collapse that killed 10 women NREGA workers in Telangana**

*The NHRC said negligence cannot be ruled out.*

Thursday, April 11th 2019

The National Human Rights Commission said on Thursday that it has sought a detailed report from Telangana authorities on the deaths of at least 10 women workers in a reported mudslide in the state's Narayanpet district on Wednesday.

The women were working under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee programme in the Marikal block to dig a rain collection pit, ANI reported. A *Hindustan Times* report on Wednesday, citing Marikal police, said there were 100 workers at the site during the mound collapse. Some also sustained injuries and are being treated at a local hospital, the report said.

The National Human Rights Commission said it had taken suo motu cognisance of a media report on the tragedy. In a statement on its website, it said that "negligence on the part of the contractor and the department concerned cannot be ruled out".

The human rights body has asked the chief secretary of Telangana to turn in a report within four weeks on the incident, the action taken against those responsible, rehabilitation measures for families of the victims and the status of safety measures at sites involving deep digging work.

"The Commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, raise a serious issue of violation of the right," it said. "The deceased, no doubt, belonged to the poorest strata. It seems that neither any precaution was taken by the authorities nor any kind of help was available on the spot. Had some safety measures been taken, ten human lives could perhaps be saved."

Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao described the incident as unfortunate and directed local authorities to provide necessary help to the injured and the families of the victims, reported PTI.

Citing an eyewitness account, PTI reported that the bodies had been buried under four to six feet of mud. "The fellow workers of the victims reportedly tried to rescue them but by the time they cleared about five feet of mud and pulled them out, all of them were dead," the Commission said.



