

Arunachal Pradesh Camp Sitting on 25th May-2018 – Report by NHRC

1. The National Human Rights Commission, in discharge of its functions u/s 12 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, and in keeping with the recommendations made by Shri K.B.Saxena, IAS (Retired), has been holding Camp Sittings/Open hearings in various parts of the country for creating awareness and ensuring better protection of Human Rights.
2. In keeping with the mandate, the Commission held a one day Open Hearing/ Camp Sitting at Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh on 25th of May, 2018, at Dorjee Khandu Convention Centre, Indira Gandhi Park, Itanagar.
3. In his welcome address, **Shri G.S.Meena**, Commissioner, Home Deptt., shared the concern of the Commission for expeditious submission of reports besides a watch on Protection of Human Rights and implementation of the recommendations made by the Commission.
4. The Chief Secretary **Shri Satya Gopal**, during his address, stated that Human Rights is the foundation stone for the society while emphasizing that Arunachal Pradesh was predominantly a Scheduled Tribe State, with 26 tribes and over 80% tribal population, it was mentioned that the State cherishes to nurture and protect communal harmony with no atrocities on scheduled tribes. While focusing on the initiatives taken by the State, it was mentioned that there were Legal Service Authorities in 20 districts, two Juvenile Justice Boards, two Human Rights Courts and passage of State Human Rights Commission Act for better protection of Human Rights. There were no cases of bonded labour, and there is a special focus on Education, Health and implementation of Flagship programmes.
5. **Shri Ambuj Sharma**, Secretary General, NHRC in his address emphasized upon the need of Human Rights for civilized development and also expressed that the Camp Sittings provided an interaction at the grass root level for consideration of the wide spectrum of views and issues pertaining to the different sections of the Society. He also elaborated the different initiatives taken by the Commission for encouraging the States to show case good practices and bringing human rights at the door steps of the common man.
6. The Chairperson NHRC **Justice Shri H.L.Dattu** mentioned that the Camp Sitting and Open hearings provide a mechanism to monitor and to review significant issues of Human Rights, create public awareness and provide a voice to the marginalized sections, besides action against the perpetrators. Deliberation on human rights issues provided an effective platform to all stakeholders and provided a way for collective protection of human rights. The need for proper implementation of flagship programmes and focus on human

trafficking, Gender Sensitization, Human Rights Education for all were also mentioned as vital ingredients for human rights protection.

7. The Commission considered 57 matters in three bench sittings during the Open hearing. The matters considered included issues such as atrocities on SC/ST suffering by Chakma and Hajong people, Health Care, Dilapidated conditions of roads, Non-implementation of the Right to Education Act, Lack of basic amenities for villagers at Indo-China border, Increase in suicide cases and lack of mental health care centres, scarcity of drinking water in Debing village in East Siang district, conditions in jails, including overcrowding, health care and denial of facilities and implementation of Central Government flagship programmes.

8. The Commission expressed its concern on the delay in submission of the various reports in general and, in particular, in matters pertaining to deaths in custody. The Commission recommended monetary relief of Rs. 14.40 lacs in two cases of prima-facie violation of human rights and in one case of death in police custody. These included one case of 88 girls students who were made to shed clothes in a school by the teachers. The report submitted confirmed the incident besides action taken against the teachers including registration of criminal case. Having regard to the blatant violation of human rights of the innocent girls, the Commission recommended Rs. 5000/- each for all the 88 girl students.

9. The State government assured of implementation of the recommendations earlier made by the Commission for payment of Rs. Two lacs to the NOK of the deceased in one other case. The State government also assured to direct the authorities to submit District-wise details of implementation of the Right to Education Act and issue circulars to the authorities including private schools for such implementation. In three cases, the Commission issued 'Show Cause' Notices to the State government for award of monetary compensation of Rs. 4.5 lacs. Four cases were closed upon receipt of the reports, and in other cases, either further time was allowed for submission of reports or reports submitted taken on record for further consideration/examination by the Commission.

10. The Single benches sittings were followed by an elaborate interaction with the NGOs (as per list enclosed) and Human Rights defenders who raised many important issues including the following:-

- Lack of basic infrastructural facilities in remote districts,
- water crises in Damang district,
- improper implementation of the PDS scheme,
- lack of internet facility in many border areas.
- Non functioning of Common Service Centres,
- Need for upgradation of the FSL laboratories,

- Increase in budget for proper health care and medicines for the population
- The absence of specialists in various disciplines for proper health care.
- The issues of Rights of indigenous people,
- Non supply of nutritious food at village level through Anganwadi Centres
- Lack of toilets in districts and villages.
- An important issue also raised was heavy bombing by Indian Air Force in Kamle district adversely affecting public life, pollution and education of children.


11. The various issues raised by the NGOs were also highlighted during the Media briefing and also brought to the notice of the State government for taking remedial measures and amelioration of the condition of the citizens in the region and for ensuring better protection of their rights. In his response, the Chief Secretary highlighted the various steps/initiatives taken including the following.

- Exemplary Communal harmony and peace achieved through better administration.
- Constituted Legal Services Authority for providing free legal aid and counselling to poor section of the society including undertrial prisoners.
- Amended Victim Compensation Scheme for compensation as per guidelines of the Government of India.
- Law passed for Constitution of State Human Rights Commission and allocation of fund for building construction
- Adequate steps for protection of Child Rights
- Juvenile Justice Board
- Special Juvenile police unit in all districts.
- One existing Observation cum special home for juvenile
- Two new Juvenile homes in the budget for 2018-19
- Steps for 19 more such homes in coming years.
- Two Human Rights Court to be established
- For girl child victim of heinous crime amendment in the law.
- No case of bonded labour in the State.
- For Purvi community which is historically marginalized, steps being taken for creation of employment opportunities.
- Old age pension increased to Rs. 1500/- per month
- Steps being taken for improvement in quality of education with appropriate budget allocation
- Attention to Health care and Health Insurance Scheme. Steps for improvement in infrastructure and facilities.
- Focus on Chief Minister Flagship programmes.
- 100% electrification of all villages achieved.

- Improvement in Law and Order situation.
- Infrastructure reforms and focus on Social Economic Reforms with particular attention to expansion of roads and budget allocation of Rs. 4500 Crores for the purpose.
- Commitment of the State government for protection of human rights of all.

12. The Commission appreciated the forthcoming attitude of the Chief Secretary, DGP and all officers who came forward to commit their full efforts in addressing all the issues of human rights in a time bound manner. The Commission also invited the attention of the State government to the peculiar problem faced due to heavy bombing by Indian Air Force in their field exercises in Kamle district adversely affecting public life, pollution and education of children. The Chief Secretary was requested to look into the issue for necessary remedial measures.

The report is submitted for perusal and consideration by the Commission, please.


(Sunil Arora)
Jt. Registrar(Law)
6.7.2018

~~Registrar(Law)~~

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9/17/18

LIST OF NGOs who participated during the Camp Sitting

1. Jikke Welfare Society Naharulagun
2. Rural Development Society, Naharulagun
3. One Steps Centre, Naharulagun
4. Women Helpline 181 under Oju Welfare Association
5. Rural Development and Heritage Society
6. OWA
7. Achukuru Welfare Society, Ziro
8. Ore Society, Itanagar,
9. AAPSU