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National Human Rights Commission, India

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Members: **Dr Dnyaneshwar M Mulay,**
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www.nhrc.nic.in NGOs and other organization are
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and disseminate it widely acknowledging the NHRC

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When restraint and courtesy are added to strength, the latter becomes irresistible.

— Mahatma Gandhi

Dialogue

Statutory Full Commission meeting

The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India, organised a Statutory Full Commission meeting of the Chairpersons, representatives of the seven National Commissions, and its ex-officio Members in New Delhi on 23rd May 2023. The objective was to enhance synergy and cooperation among the Commissions towards promoting and protecting human rights and sharing best practices.

Chairing the meeting, Mr. Justice Arun Mishra, Chairperson National Human Rights Commission, NHRC,

India said that India has an unparalleled institutional mechanism to address the issues of human rights violations with the NHRC having overarching jurisdiction in addition to seven other National Commissions and its Deemed Members to look into the right-based grievances of specific vulnerable sections of the society.

He said that while participating in and addressing various international human rights forums, he realised this and the fact that India cannot be ignored for its overall progress, and advancement along

with its democratic values, which are the best in the world. Indeed, improvements may be required, but the Freedom of Speech and the kind of debates, in India have yet to be heard of anywhere.

Justice Mishra said that each National Commission has worked tirelessly in its jurisdiction to promote and protect human rights. All that is required is to create more synergy between the work of all the Commissions, and the National Human Rights Commission to create an atmosphere of right-based culture in the country with



NHRC Chairperson, Mr Justice Arun Mishra addressing the Statutory Full Commission meeting



Chairpersons and representatives of seven National Commissions participating in the Statutory Full Commission meeting

the consistent support of centre and state governments irrespective of political dispensation.

He said that the interventions of the NHRC and all its Deemed Member National Commissions help the governments in good governance for which they are committed, and hence, these should not be considered adversarial to their functioning. He said that all the Commissions must ensure that the last person in the queue gets the distributive justice he deserved.

He said that there is a need to standardise education for children. Vernacular languages are being forgotten. If sub standard education for children in Madarsas continues, the Muslims will never come up. He said that a policy of reservation to benefit the neediest among the reserve categories needs to be considered.

Justice Mishra said that the Deemed Members of the Statutory Commission may bring to the notice of the NHRC any such case where they require further investigation and feel the need to recommend monetary relief to the victim of the violation of the rights.

Mrs. Rekha Sharma, Chairperson, National Commission for Women

expressed grave concern over human trafficking. She said that the trafficking of women from West Bengal to Srinagar has increased. Forceful conversion in the name of marriage is a severe rights violation issue that needs to be addressed.

Mr. Hansraj Gangaram Ahir, Chairperson, National Commission for Backward Classes said that some states do not implement national welfare schemes necessary to end societal inequality and discrimination. He also said that a dangerous trend is being noticed of giving benefits of reservation to those who have intruded into Indian borders thereby usurping the benefits of welfare schemes meant for the citizens of the country. It needs to be checked.

Mr. Iqbal Singh Lalpura, Chairperson, National Commission for Minorities expressed concern over

non-payment of compensation to several victims of 1984 riots even after so many years. He said that the National Commission for Minorities is working on a book with basic information about different faiths' religious practices. Mr. Lalpura also said they would like to collaborate with the NHRC on the research projects.

Mr. Priyank Kanoongo, Chairperson, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights said that running orphanages has become a kind of a racket to siphon off funds received through massive donations. He urged the NHRC to impress upon the government to include a provision on grooming in the Anti Trafficking Draft Bill. Mr. Priyank also said that India has very progressive laws including the provisions of POCSO for protecting children's human rights, and as such it is way ahead of UNCRC.

Mr. Subhash Ramnath Pardhi, Member, National Commission for Scheduled Castes expressed concern that many times High Courts reject the recommendations and directions merely on technicalities and not on merits. He said that it needs to be impressed upon judiciary to give a hearing also to the NCST before rejecting its recommendations.

Mr. Praveen Prakash Ambashta, Deputy Chief Commissioner, Chief



The Statutory Full Commission meeting in progress

Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities said that accessibility in public places continues to remain a concern for Persons with Disabilities. He noted that the two-wheelers are using ramps on roads, which have been blocked at several locations. He said that over the years, there has been a change in the perception about disabilities but more requires to be done.

Mr. Dnyaneshwar M. Mulay, Member, NHRC suggested that a museum of human rights in the country needs to be built to show case human rights in Indian Art and Culture since ancient era to till date. He also suggested jointly organising a festival to show case Indian Heritage of Promotion and

Protection of Human Rights. Dr. Mulay asked the Statutory Members to actively contribute to the NHRC Core Group Meetings and Advisories on various thematic issues common to their work area.

Mr. Rajiv Jain, Member, NHRC said that the Statutory Commission Members might consider boarding Human Rights Commission net portal to avoid duplication of complaints and forum shopping. He said that the Commission may enrich international discourse with the joint efforts of all the National Commissions.

Earlier, welcoming the participants, Mr. D.K. Singh, Secretary General, NHRC gave a brief insight into the

Commission's activities towards fulfilling its mandate. These included, among others, the disposal of 1,09,982 cases during 2022-23 and recommendations for payment of Rs.13.69 crore as relief in 279 cases to the victims or their Next of Kin, 81 suo motu cases, 48 spot inquiries besides 9 Core Group meetings and four open house discussions, and the Advisories.

Ms. Miranda Ingundam, Director, represented the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes. The NHRC, Director General (Investigation), Mr. Manoj Yadava, Registrar (Law), Mr. Surajit Dey, Joint Secretaries, Mrs. Anita Sinha, Mr. Devendra Kumar Nim, and other senior officers participated. ■

Advocacy

Important Intervention

N HRC intervention ensures action against the delinquent police personnel and payment of Rs.68 lakh as relief to the 16 victims of a blast (Case No.12076/24/16/2019)

The intervention by the National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India has ensured that the Government of Uttar Pradesh paid Rs.68 lakh as monetary relief to the 16 victims of a blast in an illegal firecracker factory in District Bhadohi on 23rd February, 2019. It included Rs.5 lakh each to the next of kin of the 12 deceased and Rs.2 lakh each to the four injured in the incident. Besides this, a criminal

case u/s 304 IPC and Section 4/5 of the Explosive Substantive Act was registered against the three persons for running the illegal firecracker factory, and a charge sheet was filed in court. Four police personnel were also suspended and dealt with departmentally for their laxity in the matter.

The Commission registered the case based on a complaint dated 24th February 2019. The reports received in response to the notices of the Commission, confirmed the allegations of police laxity in checking the illegal operation of the firecracker factory. Holding the state vicariously responsible for the inaction of its employees, the

Commission issued a notice to the state government to show cause why Rs.5 lakh each to the twelve deceased and Rs.2 lakh each to the four injured were not be recommended to be paid. However, in response, the State Government contended that since a criminal case was registered in the matter and action was taken against the delinquent police personnel; hence, the grant of monetary relief was not justified.

The Commission disagreed with this contention and reiterated its recommendation for monetary relief calling for proof of payment, which was eventually complied with. ■

Suo motu cognizance

The Commission took suo motu cognizance in 21 cases of alleged human rights violation reported by the media during May, 2023 and issued notices to the concerned authorities for reports. Summaries of some cases are as follows:-

Stopping of food supply to a govt shelter home

(Case No.1690/30/10/2023)

On 28th April, 2023, the media reported the plight of inmates of a Delhi Government Shelter Home in the Nizamuddin area. Reportedly, they had been starving for food as the supply of the same by the government has been stopped. The Commission has issued a notice to the Chief Secretary, Government of N.C.T. of Delhi calling for a detailed report in the matter regarding the present status of the food supply in the Nizamuddin Shelter Home of Delhi and the health condition of the inmates, particularly children, sick and old age persons residing in the Shelter Home. The Commission has also asked its Director General (Investigation) of the Commission to depute a team to conduct an on-the-spot fact-finding investigation in the matter.

The killing of an under-trial prisoner by the other jail inmates

(Case No. 1706/30/9/2023)

The media reported that an under-trial prisoner was killed and another injured in an attack by the other

inmates in Tihar jail. Reportedly, the attackers cut open the grill of the first floor of the ward and jumped onto the ground floor using bed sheets to attack the U.T.P. On 14th April, 2023, one under-trial prisoner was also killed and four others were injured in the fight between the rival gangs in Tihar jail after which the maximum security prison was reported put on high alert. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary, Government of NCT of Delhi, and the Director General of Prisons, Delhi calling for a detailed report.

15 National Sports Federations without Internal redressal mechanisms for complaints of sexual harassment

(Case No. 798/90/0/2023)

The media reported that there is no Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) in the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) as mandated by the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) Act, 2013. Reportedly, the wrestling body is not the only one not having duly constituted ICC. In addition to it, there are as many as 15 of the 30 National Sports Federations who do not meet this mandatory requirement.

The Commission has observed that the contents of the media report, if true, amount to a violation of a law, and thus is a matter of concern as it may impact the legal right and dignity of the sports persons. Accordingly, it has issued notices to

the (i) Secretary, Department of Sports, Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, (ii) the Sports Authority of India, SAI (iii) the Board Of Control For Cricket In India, BCCI (iv) Wrestling Federation of India, and all the 15 other National Sports Federations of Handball, Volleyball, Basketball, Weightlifting, Yachting, Gymnastics, Table Tennis, Billiards & Snooker, Kayaking & Canoeing, Judo, Squash, Triathlon, Kabaddi, Badminton, Archery, mentioned in the news report, which either do not have even an ICC or properly functional ICCs as required in the law. They have been asked to submit detailed reports including the present status of the ICC in their organization as well as the steps taken or proposed to be taken to address the issue.

According to the media report, carried on 4th May, 2023, five Federations, including the Wrestling Federation, do not even have an ICC. Four Federations do not have the stipulated number of members and another six Federations lacked the mandatory external members. It is also stated that one Federation had two panels but neither had an independent member.

Several deaths in Hooch tragedy in coastal areas

(Case No. 1267/22/0/2023)

The media reported that many people had died after allegedly consuming spurious liquor in the Villupuram and Chengalpattu districts of Tamil Nadu since 12th

May 2023, and several others are hospitalised. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Tamil Nadu calling for a detailed report. It should include the status of the F.I.R. registered by the police, medical treatment of the victims, and compensation if any, granted to the aggrieved families.

Increase of 250-300% in Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) on social media in India

(Case No. 833/90/0/2023)

The media reported that the circulation of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) has increased by 250 to 300 percent on social media in India. Reportedly, the CSAM contents are from foreign, and the Indian Investigation Agencies have not come across any Indian-made CSAM so far. The Commission has issued notices to the Commissioner of Police, Delhi, the Director General of the Police of all the States/UTs, the Director, the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), and the Secretary, the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, calling for a detailed report in the matter on the steps taken to prevent such menace on social media. According to the media report, 15th May 2023 about 450207 cases of spread of child sexual abuse material, have been reported in the year 2023, so far.

Death of three persons while working at a septic tank

(Case No. 1266/22/46/2023)

The media reported that three workers died after inhaling toxic fumes while doing patch-up work on a newly constructed septic tank

in a village under Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu on 13th May 2023. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary, Director General of Police, Government of Tamil Nadu, and the Commissioner of local Nagar Palika of Cuddalore district calling for a detailed report by explicitly mentioning the measures that the State government has already taken or likely to be taken to prevent such gross violation of human rights of innocent people, who undertake this type of hazardous sewage cleaning related works without any mechanical device and precautions.

Sexual exploitation of 13 girls students in a government school

(Case No. 10738/24/63/2023)

The media reported that a Computer Instructor sexually exploited 13 girl students in a government school in Shahjahanpur district of Uttar Pradesh. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Uttar Pradesh calling for a detailed report.

Torture and parading of a tribal girl

(Case No. 622/34/15/2023)

The media reported on 16th May 2023 that on the diktat of Jogidih village Panchayat in Palamu district of Jharkhand, a tribal girl was physically assaulted, and paraded with shoes around her neck after shaving her head when she refused to marry a man of her kin's choice. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Jharkhand calling for a detailed report.

Deaths in blasts in illegal fireworks factories

(Case No. 1419/25/23/2023)

(Case No. 1528/25/11/2023)

The NHRC took suo motu cognizance of media reports about blasts in two illegal fireworks factories at Khadikul village near Egra in East Midinipore and Malda town in West Bengal on 16th May and 23rd May 2023 respectively. In the first incident, nine labourers were killed, at least five others were injured, while two persons died in the second. Reportedly, the villagers claimed that the owners of the factories had long been engaged in the making of bombs besides fireworks, but the authorities took no visible action despite complaints.

The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, West Bengal calling for a detailed report in the matters, including the action taken against the delinquent officers.

Suicide by the father of a rape victim due to unlawful action by the police

(Case No. 11029/24/60/2023)

The media reported on 19th May, 2023 that a 45-year-old farmer committed suicide when the police forced a compromise with the perpetrators of the kidnapping and rape of his minor daughter in the Pilibhit district of Uttar Pradesh. Reportedly, the victim belonged to the Scheduled Caste. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh, and the Director General of Police, Uttar Pradesh, calling for a detailed report. It should also include the present status of the

matter and disbursement of the monetary relief to the victim under SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995. The Commission would also like to know about the action against the delinquent officer, responsible for the tragedy.

Increasing stray dog biting incidents inside a government hospital

(Case No. 1408/18/3/2023)

The media reported on 22nd May, 2023 that stray dogs are moving freely inside the Acharya Harihar Post Graduate Institute of Cancer (AHPGIC), Cuttack, Odisha, and biting patients. Reportedly, as many as five patients were bitten by stray dogs inside the hospital premises during the last week delaying their vital procedures like chemotherapy

and radiation critical for cancer treatment. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary, Government of Odisha, the Director, Acharya Harihar Post Graduate Institute of Cancer (AHPGIC), Cuttack, and the Commissioner, Cuttack Municipal Corporation calling for a detailed report on the matter. The Commission has further observed that the hospital management apparently needs to follow the Charter of Patients' Rights issued by the NHRC, which is unacceptable in a rule-based society.

Falling off a car from an un-barricaded elevated road

(Case No. 2168/30/0/2023)

The media reported on 30th May 2023 that a man accidentally drove

his car on an unattended and un-barricaded under-construction stretch of the Barapullah elevated road in Delhi. He died after his car crashed down about 30 feet below. Reportedly, there was no signage regarding the ongoing work at the site and some of the barriers had been moved. The Commission has observed that it is immaterial whether there was any contributory negligence by the victim while driving. Accordingly, notices have been issued to the Chief Secretary, the Secretary, the Public Works Department, Government of N.C.T. of Delhi, and the Delhi Police Commissioner calling for a detailed report. ■

Recommendations for Relief

A part from the number of cases taken up daily in Single Benches, 62 cases in 02 sittings were dealt by the Full Commission and 40 cases, 65 cases and 60 cases were taken up by the

Double Bench-I, Double Bench-II and Double Bench-III respectively in May, 2023. Monetary relief of ₹167.05 lakh was recommended for the victims or their Next of Kin, NoK in the 43 cases, wherein it was found

that public servants had either violated human rights or been negligent in protecting them. The specific details of these cases can be downloaded from the NHRC website by logging the case number given in the table below:

Sr. No	Case No.	Nature of Complaint	Amount (in ₹ lakh)	Authority
1.	1289/1/4/2015-JCD	Death in judicial custody	05.00	Andhra Pradesh
2.	2644/4/8/2019-JCD	Death in judicial custody	05.00	Bihar
3.	444/4/5/2019-JCD	Death in judicial custody	05.00	Bihar
4.	168/34/16/2022-JCD	Death in judicial custody	03.00	Jharkhand
5.	295/11/10/2020-JCD	Death in judicial custody	05.00	Kerala
6.	659/13/23/2018-JCD	Death in judicial custody	05.00	Maharashtra
7.	1538/18/8/2019-JCD	Death in judicial custody	10.00	Odisha

Sr. No	Case No.	Nature of Complaint	Amount (in ₹ lakh)	Authority
8.	178/18/29/2021-JCD	Death in judicial custody	05.00	Odisha
9.	11900/24/26/2019-JCD	Death in judicial custody	03.00	Uttar Pradesh
10.	14328/24/26/2019-JCD	Death in judicial custody	05.00	Uttar Pradesh
11.	19239/24/30/2018-JCD	Death in judicial custody	07.00	Uttar Pradesh
12.	26041/24/25/2020-JCD	Death in judicial custody	04.00	Uttar Pradesh
13.	26939/24/23/2019-JCD	Death in judicial custody	03.00	Uttar Pradesh
14.	1121/25/19/2019-JCD	Death in judicial custody	05.00	West Bengal
15.	1132/25/8/2020-JCD	Death in judicial custody	05.00	West Bengal
16.	115/3/0/2018-PCD	Death in police custody	03.00	Assam
17.	636/7/6/2018-PCD	Death in police custody	07.50	Haryana
18.	172/8/4/2019-PCD	Death in police custody	05.00	Himachal Pradesh
19.	1655/13/1/2017-PCD	Death in police custody	05.00	Maharashtra
20.	1826/13/3/2015-PCD	Death in police custody	07.50	Maharashtra
21.	441/11/13/2019	Death in lock up of revenue authorities	03.00	Kerala
22.	1665/13/15/2021-AD	Alleged death in judicial custody	05.00	Maharashtra
23.	3755/18/7/2019-AD	Alleged death in police custody	05.00	Odisha
24.	1316/25/5/2019-AD	Alleged death in judicial custody	05.50	West Bengal
25.	4406/18/5/2022	Custodial torture	00.50	Odisha
26.	2962/4/36/2016	Custodial torture	00.50	Bihar
27.	14/14/3/2020	Custodial violence	00.20	Manipur
28.	15785/24/77/2019-WC	Indignity of women	01.00	Uttar Pradesh
29.	30118/24/51/2018-WC	Abduction, rape and murder	03.50	Uttar Pradesh
30.	2722/18/1/2019	Death due to electrocution	05.00	Odisha
31.	3223/18/18/2022	Death due to electrocution	04.00	Odisha
32.	3280/4/12/2020	Death due to electrocution	04.00	Bihar
33.	796/18/6/2022	Inaction by the state /central govt. officials	00.25	Odisha
34.	4634/20/21/2022	Inaction by the state/central govt. officials	03.00	Rajasthan
35.	1257/34/16/2022	Inaction by the state/central govt. officials	00.10	Jharkhand
36.	935/1/22/2019	Inaction by the state/central govt. officials	01.50	Andhra Pradesh
37.	134/3/22/2018	Inaction by the state/ central govt. officials	07.00	Assam
38.	394/20/32/2022	Unlawful detention	02.00	Rajasthan
39.	1826/4/19/2019	Trouble by anti-social elements	03.00	Bihar
40.	2734/4/27/2018	Failure in taking lawful action	02.00	Bihar
41.	1014/34/6/2019	Malnutrition deaths	03.00	Jharkhand
42.	31541/24/13/2022	Medical negligence	02.00	Uttar Pradesh
43.	365/1/21/2018	Health	03.00	Andhra Pradesh

Justice with Victims

Relief on NHRC Recommendations

The Commission closed 13 cases, either on receipt of the compliance reports and proof of payment from the public authorities or by giving some other

observations/ directions. An amount of ₹ 40.10 lakh was paid to the victims or their Next of Kin, NoK on the recommendations of the Commission. The specific details of

these cases can be downloaded by the NHRC website by logging the case number given in the table below:

Sr. No	Case No.	Nature of Complaint	Amount (in ₹ lakh)	Authority
1.	2644/4/8/2019-JCD	Death in judicial custody	05.00	Bihar
2.	168/34/16/2022-JCD	Death in judicial custody	03.00	Jharkhand
3.	1665/13/15/2021-AD	Alleged death in judicial custody	05.00	Maharashtra
4.	4406/18/5/2022	Custodial torture	00.50	Odisha
5.	29522/24/8/2021-WC	Women	00.50	Uttar Pradesh
6.	3280/4/12/2020	Death due to electrocution	04.00	Bihar
7.	1988/7/12/2020	Death due to electrocution	03.00	Haryana
8.	3223/18/18/2022	Death due to electrocution	04.00	Odisha
9.	4233/18/5/2022	Death due to electrocution	05.00	Odisha
10.	1257/34/16/2022	Inaction by the state/ central govt. officials	00.10	Jharkhand
11.	4634/20/21/2022	Inaction by the state/ central govt. officials	03.00	Rajasthan
12.	874/12/8/2021	Irregularities in govt. hospitals/ primary health centres	05.00	Madhya Pradesh
13.	31541/24/13/2022	Medical negligence	02.00	Uttar Pradesh



Success stories

In many cases, the Commission received compliance reports from the respective state authorities. Summaries of some cases are as under:

Malnutrition

(Case No.1014/34/6/2019)

The case pertained to the death of 8 months old baby at MGM Hospital due to malnutrition on 21st August, 2019. Allegedly, 164 infants were died within four months in the hospital and cause of death was malnutrition. On the basis of the material on record, the Commission found that there were 19 deaths from year 2016 to 2019 due to malnutrition as per record of MGM Medical College Hospital, Jamshedpur. The Commission recommended that the Government of Jharkhand pay Rs. 3 lakh as relief to the next of kin of the deceased child and take all necessary steps including repairing of instruments for proper functioning of the Pediatric Department of M.G.M. Medical College. The report received in response revealed that the relief was paid and the directions for taking necessary steps to improve the functioning of the Pediatric Department of the hospital were issued.

Electrocution

(Case No.796/18/6/2022)

The matter pertains to the burn injuries caused to a 60 year old man due to electrocution while he was

grazing his goats in Kalahandi, Odisha on 23rd February, 2022. Allegedly, he got electrocuted by coming in contact with an electricity cable which was hanging at a dangerous height due to negligence by the authorities. On the basis of the material on record, the Commission found the allegations true and recommended that the Government of Odisha pay Rs.25,000/- as relief to the victim and ensure monitoring and maintenance of electricity lines above suitable ground clearance so that such incidents do not occur in future. The recommendations of the Commission were complied with.

Police brutality

(Case No.15785/24/77/2019-WC)

The matter pertains to the police brutality and false implication of a family including men and women in a case of theft in Hapur, Uttar Pradesh. On the basis of the material on record, the Commission found the allegations true and recommended that the Government of Uttar Pradesh pay Rs.1 lakh as relief to the victim family and take action against the erring police personnel. In response, it was informed by the State officials that departmental proceedings against the delinquent police officers (05) were initiated and they have been punished departmentally. The relief, as recommended by the Commission, was also paid to the victims.

Denial of family pension

(Case No.935/1/22/2019)

The matter pertains to the denial of family pension by the District Treasury Officer, Vizianagarm, Andhra Pradesh to the complainant's mother on the ground that she had not applied within one year from the death of the pensioner. On the basis of the material on record, the Commission observed that the guidelines are for the welfare of beneficiaries and these needs to be applied in their favour and not against them. The Commission therefore recommended that the Government of Andhra Pradesh pay Rs.1.5 lakh as relief to the victim, and take disciplinary action against the concerned erring officials of District Treasury, Vizianagarm. The relief was paid.

Non-payment of Pension

(Case No. 3055/13/16/2022)

The matter pertains to the non-payment of pension to a retired employee of a public sector company, the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL), Mumbai, for more than six years due to some technical laps on the part of the office. Pursuant to the directions of the Commission, including a conditional summon to the Regional Commissioner, EPFO Vashi, Navi Mumbai, it was informed that the complainant was eventually provided with the due benefits as per provisions of the Pension Scheme, including Rs. 47,607/-, with interest, on 23rd March, 2023.

Inquiries

From Investigation Files

Disposal of cases

During June, 2023, total 382 cases were processed including 06 spot enquiries, 270 Judicial Custody Deaths, 65 Police Custody Deaths, 23 Encounter Deaths and 18 Fact Finding Cases.

Spot enquiries

The following spot enquiries were conducted by the Commission's officers in its Investigation Division:

Sl. No.	Case Number	Allegations	Date of visit
1.	362/7/5/2023	Sexual assault by a senior police officer in Angul district, Odisha.	1 st – 5 th May, 2023
2.	1690/30/10/2023	Stoppage of govt. food supply to the inmates staying in Delhi Govt. Shelter Home in Nizammuddin Area.	2 nd May, 2023
3.	1690/30/10/2023	Death of a youth in firing by a Sub-Inspector of PS Kaliaganj in District Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal.	29 th – 2 nd June, 2023

Outreach

Training initiatives for Human Rights Awareness

During the month of May, 2023, the National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India organized its 15 days online Short Term Internship Programme (OSTI) from 8th May to 19th May, 2023. The NHRC Secretary General, Mr. Devendra Kumar Singh inaugurated and its Director General (Investigation), Mr. Manoj Yadava

chaired the valedictory function of the programme. In all, 63 students from various universities in different parts of the country were given an insight into various facets of human rights.

Besides this, the Training Division of the Commission also organized the visits of school and college students

and gave them an understanding of the human rights and the functioning of the Commission. They included 10 girl students from the Bedia Community, Madhya Pradesh, 66 students and faculties of GD Goenka Public School, Dwarka, New Delhi, and JEMTEC School of Law, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh. ■



Snippets

On 3rd May, 2023, Mr. Kulbir Singh, Deputy Superintendent of Police, NHRC delivered a lecture on the Protection of Human Rights and the role of NHRC, interrogation procedure-death in police custody, NHRC Guidelines on encounter deaths to the Constables and Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Delhi Police at Delhi Police Academy, Delhi.

On 15th May, 2023, the NHRC Chairperson, Mr. Justice Arun Mishra presided over a presentation on the Research study titled “Disparity in access to education in the aspirational districts in Odisha, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh” by the Principal Investigator, Dr. Thomas Varghese of Indian Social Institute.

From 21st – 23rd May, 2023, NHRC Officer, Ms. Monika Joon attended the UNFPA/APF workshop on Reproductive Rights Advocacy Plan at Bangkok, Thailand.



On 25th May, 2023, NHRC Director General (Inv.), Mr. Manoj Yadava inaugurated a three days **'Workshop on Human Rights and Gender Sensitization'** organized by the CRPF at its Academy, Kadarapur, Gurugram, Haryana. He addressed the participants on (i) Overview and History of Human Rights in India and (ii) Human Rights and Police – Role and Responsibilities of Police to protect Human Rights during I/O duties VIP Duties, Pandemic, Terrorism/ Naxalism'. NHRC Senior Superintendent of Police, Mr. Patil Ketan Baliram, and Deputy Superintendent of Police, Mr. Dushyant Singh also delivered lectures during the workshop on 26th June, 2023 on various aspects of policing and human rights.



On 26th May, 2023, Mr. Cameron Mackay, High Commissioner of Canada in India, accompanied by Mr. Colin Wetmore, First Secretary, Political Affairs met with the NHRC Secretary General, Mr. Devendra Kumar Singh, and senior officers of the Commission. They were given an understanding of the functioning of the Commission.



On 30th May, 2023, NHRC Member, Dr. Dnyaneshwar M. Mulay chaired the first meeting of the Advisory Board for the Commission's Annual Hindi Journal "Manav Adhikar: Nai Dishayein" (Volume 20, 2023) to explore various themes and subjects for the articles in it.



On 30th May, 2023, NHRC Director General (Inv.), Mr. Manoj Yadava attended a meeting with the Chairperson and Director General of Punjab State Human Rights Commission at Chandigarh and discussed various issues of human rights and the functioning of the two Commissions.

Human Rights and NHRC in News

During May, 2023, the Media & Communication Wing of the Commission prepared and issued 18 press releases. 2363 news clippings on various human rights issues were culled out from different/select editions of major

English and Hindi newspapers and some news websites out of which in 680 News Clippings a reference was made to the NHRC. News clippings related to the incidents of alleged human rights violations were brought to the notice of the Commission.

News stories having specific reference to the interventions by the NHRC can be seen at 'NHRC-in-News' on the website of the Commission. 'NHRC Twitter handle' was abuzz with 30 tweets on the Commission's interventions & activities.



Complaints in May, 2023

Complaints received	7,331
Disposed off	8,506
Under consideration of the Commission	11,078

Important telephone numbers of the NHRC for filing complaints

Toll Free No.: 14433 (Facilitation Centers)

Fax No.: 011-2465 1332

For Filing online complaints: www.nhrc.nic.in, hrcnet.nic.in, Common Service Centres

Email: jrlawnhrc@nic.in (For complaints), cr.nhrc@nic.in (For general queries/ correspondence)

Focal point for Human Rights Defenders:

Indrajeet Kumar Deputy Registrar (Law)

Mobile No. +91 99993 93570 • Fax No. 011-2465 1334 • E-mail: hrd-nhrc@nic.in

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