



HUMAN RIGHTS NEWSLETTER

A Monthly Publication of
the National Human Rights Commission, India



CISF lifts the running trophy as the best team in the NHRC debate competition for CAPFs.

Mr. Justice Arun Mishra, Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission on 23rd November, 2022 said that some special laws like UAPA were enacted to protect human rights not to take away them. The concept of using proportionate force in dealing with an adversary has been embedded in the Indian idea of Manav Dharma. The promotion and protection of human rights is a valued part of Indian culture, philosophy, and practice having the genesis in ancient Indian scriptures right since the 'Rig Veda'. This was reflected in the Ramayana period when Lord Ram advised Laxman to use proportionate force and not a weapon of mass destruction during the war, and even in the Mahabharata period, the warriors fought on principles, and after sun set visited the opposite camps to take care of the wounded.

Justice Mishra was addressing the gathering as the Chief Guest of the 27th NHRC Annual Debate Competition for the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) organized in collaboration with the CISF in New Delhi on 23rd November, 2022. He said that the ancient Indian values guide people to protect and promote all elements in nature, which are so essential for life on earth. Technology bereft of morals will be destructive to the environment and therefore, life on the earth.

He lauded the role of the armed

forces in protecting the security and integrity of the nation and providing safety to the citizens braving adverse situations. Referring to the topic of the debate competition – "Maintenance of Human Rights is the primary pre-requisite for Rule of Law & Constitutional Governance", the

NHRC Chairperson said that though it was more challenging for those who spoke against the motion, the arguments given by the participants for and against the motion indicate their sensibility and understanding of the respect human rights require to be given during their operations, which is the aim of this debate competition for Central Armed Police Forces.

The CISF lifted the overall best team rolling trophy winning the final round of the debate competition in Hindi and English. Among the individual honours, the first prize for debate in Hindi went to Sub Inspector, Vikesh Timande, RPF, and in English to Sub Inspector, Nazish Khan, CISF. The second prize in Hindi went to Constable Recruit, Pranjal Upadhayay, Assam Rifles, and in English to Deputy Commandant, Shinde Mehul Pandurang, CISF. The third prize in Hindi was jointly shared by Sub



A scene from the 27th CAPF Debate Competition - 2022

Inspector Priyanka Thakur, RPF, and Rifleman, Manoj Kumar Upadhayay, Assam Rifles, and in English it went to Deputy Commandant, Raghvendra Singh, CISF. Besides the certificates and a memento the first, second, and third prize winners were also given cash awards of Rs.12,000/-, Rs.10,000/- and Rs.8,000/- each respectively.

The winners were decided by a three-member panel of the jury headed by the NHRC Members, Dr. D.M. Mulay for Hindi and Mr. Rajiv Jain for English, comprising Mr. Kamal Nayan Choubey, former Director General of Police, Jharkhand, and Prof. (Dr.) Harpreet Kaur, Vice-Chancellor (I/C), National Law University, Delhi.

Giving comments on the debate, Dr. D.M. Mulay, appreciated the participants' efforts but expected them to build their logic for and against the motion by imbibing the

“We may never be strong enough to be entirely nonviolent in thought, word and deed. But we must keep nonviolence as our goal and make strong progress towards it.”
— Mahatma Gandhi



CISF lifts the running trophy as the best team in the NHRC debate competition for CAPFs.

not just through the prism of security forces and their related challenges but also in the light of various rights. Mr. Rajiv Jain, also appreciated the efforts but said that the participants needed to relate with every word of the topic to build their arguments, which may not be lost out in their high pitch delivery.

General, NHRC said that there is a tremendous responsibility on the shoulders of the security forces to deal fairly with the people without giving them the sense that their rights were sacrificed anywhere while upholding the rule of law.

In the event's opening remarks, Mr. Manoj Yadava, Director General (Investigation), NHRC said that the idea of this debate competition is that the rule of law and protection of human rights should permeate down the functioning of the security forces.

topic's spirit. They needed to see it

Earlier, Mr. D.K. Singh, Secretary

Meeting regarding the status of installation of CCTV cameras at Police Stations

Mr. Justice Arun Mishra, Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India on 24th November, 2022 expressed concern that all State and UT police organizations are still not fully compliant with the Supreme Court directions for the installation of CCTV cameras having audio recording and night vision at every police station with 18th month storage of the recordings. He was chairing a meeting to discuss the measures to be taken to ensure the proper working of the CCTVs at police stations with data backup.

Justice Mishra said that transparency in policing should be the hallmark of law & order management. He said that the Commission is willing to examine the scope of preparing an SOP, if necessary, with the help of police

officers, experts, and other different stakeholders to see how the directions of the Supreme Court are implemented.

The meeting was organized by the Commission in follow up to the inspections of 32 police stations by its Investigation Team in Delhi, Gurugram, Faridabad, Jhajjar, and Sonapat districts of Haryana, Gautam Budh Nagar and Ghaziabad districts of Uttar Pradesh in the backdrop of a case of suicide by an under trial prisoner in Tihar jail. This prompted the Commission to have a first-hand assessment of the condition of CCTV cameras in police stations in Delhi-NCR by randomly visiting them.

NHRC Members, Dr. D.M.



NHRC Chairperson, Mr. Justice Arun Mishra chairing the meeting

Mulay and Mr. Rajiv Jain, Secretary General, Mr. D.K. Singh, Director General (Inv.), Mr. Manoj Yadava, Registrar (Law), Mr. Surajit Dey, Joint Secretary, Mr. H.C. Chaudhary, DIG, Mr. Sunil Kumar Meena, SSP, Mr. Anupam Sharma as well as the senior police officers from Gurugram, Faridabad, Jhajjar, Sonapat, Gautam Budh Nagar, and Ghaziabad participated in the discussions.

Discussion on Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM)

The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India held a discussion on 'Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM)' on 4th November, 2022 to understand the nature, extent and different manifestations of the problem. The NHRC Member, Mr. Rajiv Jain chaired it.

The NHRC Member, Mr. Justice M.M. Kumar explained that the issue emanates from access to unbridled and unfiltered material relating to sexual exploitation of children. He also pointed out two major challenges in addressing the issue at hand. First, owing to vested interests, the cost of

filtering material relating to CSAM is so prohibitive that preventing its access becomes the biggest challenge. Controlling the connivance of various agencies and sale/purchase of children is the second big challenge while dealing with CSAM.

The NHRC Member, Dr. D.M.

Mulay highlighted the fact that the issue has acquired a proportion beyond anyone's imagination in India. He further noted with worry that, at times, even material other than CSAM may cause mental abuse and tremendous adverse impact on individuals.

The NHRC Secretary General, Mr. D.K. Singh suggested setting up separate cadres in police consisting of technical expertise and highly qualified individuals with necessary aptitude and motivation. The NHRC, Director General (Investigation) Mr. Manoj Yadava, stated that the focus should be given

to strengthening enforcement machinery. The NHRC Joint Secretary, Mrs. Anita Sinha gave a brief on the Virtual Conference on CSAM organized by the Commission in July, 2020.

Among the special invitees, Mr. O.P. Singh, CEO, India Child Protection Fund (ICPF), apprised the participants of the efforts taken by his organization for addressing CSAM. Mr. Sundar Krishnan, Executive Director, ICPF explained the technical aspects of the issue. Dr. Gulshan Rai, Former National Cyber Security Coordinator, elucidated the technological, legal



A scene of the meeting in progress

and enforcement aspects of CSAM. Mr. Viplav Kumar Choudhry, Joint Director, CBI explained the efforts undertaken by the Government to address CSAM.

Important Intervention

NHRC alarmed over the increasing air pollution in Delhi-NCR Case No. 2886/90/0/2022

The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India, not satisfied with the various actions taken so far to address the issue of air pollution in Delhi NCR, asked the Chief Secretaries of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi to be present before it either personally or on hybrid mode on 10th November, 2022 for a detailed discussion in this regard and since then the hearing of the matter is continuing. The Commission has observed that with the winter approaching, the NHRC, being the premier human rights body of the country, cannot remain a mute spectator of the situation affecting the human rights of the common citizens. It is of the considered view that notwithstanding several directions of the Supreme Court, National Green Tribunal and other authorities, the air quality in Delhi- NCR has not seen required improvement for a human-friendly environment, which cannot be allowed to remain so perpetually.

Some of the common points on which the Commission has sought reports from the concerned States and the Government of NCT of Delhi, include among others, the status of assistance to farmers for in-situ management of crop residue through machines and other methods; checking stubble burning; use of mobile and stationary anti-smog guns; dust management through water sprinklers; mechanical road sweeper machines; vehicular pollution, management of construction, demolition & other waste; unpaved roads and potholes surviving trees out of those planted; hotspots identified and focused action to control air pollution therein as well as the status of compliance of its Advisory dated 24.09.2021 with regard to the hazardous cleaning by providing safety equipment and mechanical management of cleaning septic tanks/sewers.

Six persons death in police firing (Case No. 40/15/11/2022)

The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India has taken cognizance of a Memorandum by the Chief Minister of Meghalaya that 6 persons, including one Assam forest official, had died in the firing by the Assam Police and Assam Forest Guards at Mukroh village in West Jantia Hills District of Meghalaya on 22nd November, 2022.

The Commission has observed that it seems, this incident has taken place due to the border dispute between the two states - Assam and Meghalaya, which is a larger issue, pending for long. Prima-facie, it appears that, had this dispute been settled, such type of incident would have been averted. Whatsoever may be the dispute between the States, Police has to use restraint in such situations. Therefore, it would want to get examined the S.O.P. in operation, if any, about firing by Armed Forces/Police in areas of a border dispute between neighbouring States. Accordingly, the Commission has transmitted the Memorandum to the Home Secretary, Government of India, and the Chief Secretary, Government of Assam, Dispur. They are to examine and evolve mechanisms/suggest measures to prevent such types of incidents, particularly in areas in which there is a border dispute between neighbouring States.

Allegedly, the incident ensued chasing of a truck carrying timber by the Assam Police and Assam Forest Guards. The truck was detained in Mukroh village by these Forces. The villagers of Mukroh became agitated upon the entry of the Assam Police in their village. They surrounded the Assam Police and Assam Forest Guards, consequent upon this firing took place. In the incident, four were found dead on the spot, whereas, the other four villagers were seriously injured and hospitalized. Out of them, two villagers succumbed to injuries in the hospital.

Suo Motu Cognizance

The Commission took suo motu cognizance in seven cases of alleged human rights violation reported by the media during November, 2022 and issued notices to the concerned authorities for reports. Summary of these cases are as follows:-

Rescued Uzbek women missing from a shelter home (Case No. 7021/30/6/2022-WC)

The media reported on 3rd November, 2022 that five of the seven Uzbek women, rescued from a sex trafficking racket by the Delhi police went missing from a shelter home in Dwarka. Reportedly, the women were brought to India via Nepal and forced into sex work.

The Commission has observed that State is under an obligation to protect the life of the foreign nationals in the country as it is for its own citizens. Accordingly, it has issued a notice to the Delhi Chief Secretary and the Commissioner of Police, calling for a detailed report in the matter along with the action taken report against the shelter home.

The report should include the status of the investigation, recovery of the missing Uzbek women and progress in finding out the conspirators of sex racket in operation in Delhi and nearby places, arrest if any. It must also contain the outcome of the NHRC's Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Combating Trafficking of Persons in India, and its implementation within Delhi NCR region to prevent such repeated offences.

Brutal ragging and assault at a college (Case No. 2605/36/2/2022)

The media reported on 12th November, 2022 that a 1st year student of BBA -LLB at IBS College hostel in Shankarpally, Hyderabad was ragged, brutally assaulted and compelled to raise religious slogans by a group of students on 1st November, 2022. Reportedly, the victim approached the college management but they did not react promptly. A case was registered by

the police only on 11th November, 2022 on a complaint sent through e-mail by the victim.

The Commission has issued the notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Telangana calling for reports in the matter. It should include an action taken report, along with the reasons for the prima facie failure of the institution to take adequate steps to prevent ragging in accordance with the University Grants Commission, UGC regulation, and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to punish the perpetrators of the incident of ragging, its abettors and sympathizers by attracting punitive action under the UGC Act. It is also to be explained whether the victim had been suspended by the college, and if yes, in what circumstances.

The Secretary, Union Ministry of Education as well as the Secretary, UGC have also been asked to submit reports into the immediate cases as well as the effective implementation of the recommendations of the Raghavan Committee on "The Menace of Ragging in Educational Institutions and Measures to curb it", affirmed by the Supreme Court of India for educational institutions across the country.

Missing girls from shelter homes (Case No. 1207/11/7/2022)

The Media reported that nine girls went missing from a shelter home at Manganam in Kottayam, Kerala. Reportedly, when the police found them at the residence of one of the inmates, the girls resisted their return to the shelter home. This was the 3rd such incident reported from Kottayam in recent months. The Commission has observed that that prima facie there appears to be a possibility of some kind of inhuman and undignified treatment being meted out to these girls at the shelter home forcing them to leave it.

Accordingly, the Commission has issued notices to the Kerala Chief Secretary and DGP, calling for a report. Considering that the incidents of missing girls have been happening

repeatedly in Kottayam, the Commission has also asked its Special Rapporteur, Mr. Hari Sena Verma to visit the district and submit a report and suggest measures to avoid such incidents in the future.

The lack of proper access to the education facilities for children (Case No. 1838/19/5/2022)

The Media reported about the plight of students in Kaluwara village of Punjab, especially the girls, who have to first walk on foot in slushy banks of the river Sutlej then cross it by boarding a Berhi (a wooden boat) to walk for another 4 kms along the border with Pakistan before finally reaching to the Government Senior Secondary School in Gatti Rajoke area of the district Ferozpur of the State.

Reportedly, Kaluwara is surrounded on three sides by the river water and a border fence on the fourth. During the heavy rain, the river floods fields and houses, forcing the residents to spend days on their roof tops. The village houses 50 families, and has only one primary school. Most of the girls studying in the primary school, drop out after the fifth standard due to extreme difficulties to reach school for higher education.

The Commission has issued a notice to the Government of Punjab, through its Chief Secretary, calling for a report along with the action taken about the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to provide for better and hassle-free access to the students to the school, either by creation of a new facility at a nearby place or by providing better access to reach the existing one.

Death of the workers in a sewerage well (Case No. 4916/20/14/2022)

The media reported that in Rajasthan two labourers died while conducting the repair work of a leaking valve in the 25 feet deep well of a sewerage treatment plant of Jaipur Development Authority in Kalwar area on 18th November, 2022. Reportedly, one of their associates was pulled out safe by a police officer

after jumping inside the well.

The Commission has appreciated the commendable work done by the police official, however, it is of the view that prosecution against the responsible persons/agency whether public or private, is mandatory u/s 304A IPC, who engaged the victims for the hazardous cleaning without safety gear.

Accordingly, it has issued the notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Rajasthan as well as the Chairman, Jaipur Development Authority calling for a report in the matter.

Death of three sanitation workers while cleaning a septic tank (Case No. 4748/22/11/2022)

The media reported that three workers were asphyxiated to death while cleaning a septic tank at an under-construction house in Gandhi Nagar area in Karur district of Tamil Nadu on 15th November, 2022. The Commission has issued the notices to the Chief Secretary, Director General of Police, Tamil Nadu and the Municipal Commissioner, Karur, calling for the reports including the action taken against the erring public servant and relief to the victims' families.

Issuing the notices, the Commission has emphasized that in case of any sanitary work or hazardous cleaning work, the local authority and the contractor/employers are to be held responsible and accountable, jointly and severally irrespective of the type of hiring/engagement of the sanitary workers.

Rape by Police Inspector (Case No. 3167/7/3/2022-WC)

The media reported that in Palwal, Haryana, a crime branch Inspector raped a woman in lieu of helping her jailed husband. The

Commission has issued a notice to the Chief Secretary and Director General of Police, Government of Haryana by calling for the reports in the matter.

The Commission has also asked the Member-Secretary, State Legal Services Authority, Haryana to send a report on the prolonged incarceration of the husband of the victim woman in jail and to ensure that the accused be provided with free Legal Aid counsel.

Botched cataract surgery (Case No. 36136/24/43/2022)

The media reported that six patients lost eyesight due to the negligence of the doctors after the cataract surgery at a private hospital in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh. Reportedly, the patients were told that the eye surgeries were being done at a free camp but were charged Rs. 1500/- each. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Uttar Pradesh calling for a detailed report in the matter.

Sexual exploitation at a shelter home (Case No. 4082/13/19/2022)

The media reported that after the arrest of the Director of a private facility for children at Mhasrul Shivra in Nashik district of Maharashtra was arrested by the police for allegedly subjecting a 14 years old girl to rape, more girls have alleged sexual exploitation at the shelter home. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Maharashtra calling for a detailed report in the matter. The Commission has also asked its Special Rapporteur Mr. P.N. Dixit to inspect the Children's Shelter Home, and submit a detailed report on its condition.

Atrocities on Dalits

(Case No.6179/4/40/2022)

The media reported on 30th November, 2022 that a 29-year-old Dalit woman died and her five-year-old daughter suffered burn injuries after their house was set ablaze in Arwal district of Bihar. The accused had reportedly tried to molest the sister-in-law of the victim woman two days before the incident.

The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Bihar calling for a detailed report specifying whether relevant provisions of the SC/ST (PoA) Act have been applied and initial payment of the statutory relief under the SC/ST (PoA) Rules or any other compensation has been granted to the family of the victim. Failure of Public Servant, if any, to prevent the ghastly crime must also be mentioned in the report. Apart from this, the Commission would like to know about the status of the One Stop Centers in the State, mandated to be created under Nirbhaya Fund. A data for the last 3 years is to be provided about registration of cases through One Stop Centers and the relief provided.

Rape in a government school (Case No.6183/4/15/2022)

The media reported on 30th November, 2022 that a 14 year old girl student of a government primary school was kidnapped and raped by a group of boys in Kaimur district of Bihar. Reportedly, the boys fled the place on seeing the Principal. However, instead of helping the victim, he also raped her. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Bihar calling for a detailed report in the matter including the registration of FIR and the relief provided to the victim.

CASES OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS (HRDs)

The Commission registered one case of alleged harassment of Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) during the month of November, 2022. Summary of the case is as under:-

**False implication
Case No.842/33/18/2022**

Allegedly, on 28th August, 2022 a Human Rights Defender was subjected to harassment, false implication and atrocities by police for leading a peaceful movement against the illegalities in the Rowghat mines in Narayanpur district,

Chhattisgarh. The Commission has called for an action taken report from the Director General of Police, Chhattisgarh and the concerned District Magistrate.

Recommendations for Relief

A part from the number of cases taken up daily, 03 cases by the Full Commission and 50 cases by the Double Bench-II and 80 cases were dealt by the Double Bench-III in December, 2022. The Commission has recommended monetary relief of ₹84,25,000/- for the victims or their NoK in the 16 cases, where it 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:

S.N.	Case No.	Nature of Complaint	Amount (in ₹)	Authority
1	1238/4/32/2019-JCD	Death in judicial custody	500000	Bihar
2	2188/13/20/2018-JCD	Death in judicial custody	500000	Maharashtra
3	10150/24/4/2020-JCD	Death in judicial custody	750000	Uttar Pradesh
4	8908/24/26/2020-JCD	Death in judicial custody	500000	Uttar Pradesh
5	636/7/6/2018-PCD	Death in police custody	750000	Haryana
6	172/8/4/2019-PCD	Death in police custody	500000	Himachal Pradesh
7	1826/13/3/2015-PCD	Death in judicial custody	750000	Maharashtra
8	469/19/10/2016-PCD	Death in police custody	500000	Punjab
9	956/20/1/2019-PCD	Death in police custody	500000	Rajasthan
10	3755/18/7/2019-AD	Alleged custodial deaths in police custody	500000	Odisha
11	18850/24/23/2020-AD	Alleged custodial deaths in judicial custody	500000	Uttar Pradesh
12	924/10/5/2017-ED	Death in police encounter	750000	Karnataka
13	986/1/21/2019	Abuse of power	200000	Andhra Pradesh
14	1353/4/21/2021	Failure in taking lawful action	1000000	Bihar
15	16819/24/41/2020	False implications	125000	Uttar Pradesh
16	6590/24/7/2020	Non registration of FIR	100000	Uttar Pradesh

Relief on NHRC Recommendations:

The Commission closed 13 cases, either on receipt of the compliance report and proof of payment from the public authorities, or by giving some other observations/directions. An amount of ₹40,30,000/- was paid to the victims of human rights violations or their next of kin on the recommendations of the Commission. The specific details of these cases can be downloaded from the NHRC website by logging the case number given in the table below:

S. N.	Case No.	Nature of Complaint	Amount(in ₹)	Authority
1	920/7/17/2020-JCD	Death in judicial custody	375000	Haryana
2	135/13/8/2021-JCD	Death in judicial custody	500000	Maharashtra
3	1752/18/17/2019-JCD	Death in judicial custody	500000	Odisha
4	3188/18/30/2018-JCD	Death in judicial custody	300000	Odisha
5	1068/20/29/2020-JCD	Death in judicial custody	450000	Rajasthan
6	12580/24/1/2019-JCD	Death in judicial custody	200000	Uttar Pradesh
7	30955/24/78/2019-JCD	Death in judicial custody	400000	Uttar Pradesh
8	43/2/4/2017-ED	Death in police custody	300000	Arunachal Pradesh
9	137/3/11/2019	Inaction by the Central/State Government officials	200000	Assam
10	1318/7/2/2020	Custodial Torture	300000	Haryana
11	913/12/23/2020	Mid Day meal for children	380000	Madhya Pradesh
12	19166/24/7/2020-AR	Rape in police custody	100000	Uttar Pradesh
13	8583/24/52/2018	Failure in taking lawful action	25000	Uttar Pradesh

Success stories

Summaries of some cases of compliance are as under:

Custodial Torture

(Case No. 1318/7/2/2020)

Allegedly, the complainant

was illegally detained and brutally beaten at Badhra PS, District Charkhi Dadri, Haryana. Despite filing several complaints, no action was being taken. On the basis of material on

record received by the Commission from the concerned authorities in response to its Notices, it found the allegations correct. Therefore, it recommended Rs. 3 lakh as

relief to the victim for his human rights violations. In response, the SP Charkhi Dadri informed that departmental action has been taken against the erring officials, hence, no compensation was required to be paid to the victim. The Commission did not accept the contention, and issued a show cause notice to the Chief Secretary of the State reiterating its recommendation for the payment of monetary relief, which was eventually paid.

Judicial Custodial Death (Case No. 3188/18/30/2018-JCD)

The case pertains to the death of an Under Trial Prisoner at the Sub-Jail, Nuapada, Odisha on 29th June, 2018. On the basis of the material on record, the Commission found medical negligence in the treatment of the prisoner leading to his death. Therefore, the Commission recommended that the Govt. of Odisha pay Rs.3 lakh as relief to the NoK of the deceased, which was paid.

Alleged Custodial Rape in Police Custody (Case No. 19166/24/7/2020-AR)

Allegedly, the complainant was raped and mentally tortured on multiple occasions by Police Sub-Inspector in Badaun district of Uttar Pradesh. On the basis of the material

on record, the Commission found that the accused was found guilty in the departmental proceedings. He was punished by posting him at the lowest pay scale of his rank. The Commission, as per its mandate under the Protection of Human Rights Act, recommended that the Government of Uttar Pradesh pay Rs one lakh as relief to the victim for the violation of her Right to Dignity. However, the SP, Human Rights contended that it would be lawfully proper to provide the financial help to the complainant after the final decision taken on the investigation report submitted by the CBCID. The Commission did not accept it, and reiterated its recommendation for monetary relief. Thereafter, the concerned authorities submitted the proof of payment to the victim.

Inaction by public authorities (Case No. 137/3/11/2019)

Allegedly, the complainant was illegally detained by the border branch of the Assam Police in the year 2016 due to mistaken identity. She was declared foreigner by the Foreigners Tribunal and detained at Kokrajhar Detention Centre in Assam. She was victimized by the authorities by illegally detaining her for 3 years leading to violation of her basic human rights.

On the basis of the material on record received from the concerned authorities in response to its notices, the Commission found the allegations as correct. Post NHRC intervention, an enquiry was initiated and six police officials were found guilty. They were awarded punishment by stoppage of annual service increments with cumulative effect. The Commission recommended that for the human rights violation of the victim, the Govt. of Assam pay her Rs. 2 Lakh, which was paid.

Mid Day Meal for children (Case No. 913/12/23/2020)

Allegedly, 29 primary school children and 05 Anganwadi Children fell sick after having a mid-day meal in the school of District Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh. On the basis of the material on record, received from the concerned authorities in response to its notices, the Commission found that the allegations were correct and that one primary education teacher was suspended. The Commission recommended that the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh pay Rs.10,000/- each to the 33 children and Rs. 50,000/- to one child whose condition got serious and remained hospitalized for long, which was paid.

From Investigation Files

This column carries stories unfolding an intricate case of human rights violation leading to a diametrically opposite revelation to prima-facie claims and findings after investigation by the NHRC team:

Deaths in judicial custody (Case No. 3587/24/8/2019-JCD) (Case 23699/24/7/2021-JCD)

(Case No. 1752/18/17/2019-JCD)

The Investigation Division of the Commission, on the basis of the material on record, enquiry and the expert opinion in the three cases of deaths in judicial custody of three prisoners, exposed the negligence of prison authorities. Prima facie in all the three cases, there did not appear to be any foul play. However, during

the course of enquiry, the NHRC Investigation Team found that in two cases, the prison administration had failed to provide timely medical treatment to the prisoners due to non-availability of escort for several days and in another in keeping vigil on the prisoner to ensure that he did not consume glass pieces.

Disposal of cases

During November, 2022, total 297 cases were processed including 02 spot enquiries, 238 Judicial

Custodial Deaths, 36 Police Custodial Deaths, 10 Encounter Deaths and 11 Fact Finding Cases.

Spot enquiries

Following is the list of cases wherein spot enquiries were conducted by the Commission's officers in its Investigation Division:

S.N.	Case Number	Allegations	Date of visit
1.	6332/30/4/2022	Escaping of 4 girls (13-16 years of age) from Udaan-Rose Home (Girls), Kamla Nagar, Delhi	29th – 30th November, 2022

Snippets



- On 7th November, 2022, the NHRC reconstituted its Core Group on Human Rights Defenders and NGOs with 13 members.
- On 18th November, 2022, students from the School of Journalism, Delhi University visited the Commission and were addressed by the NHRC Member, Mr. Justice M.M. Kumar and Dy. Director (Media & Comm), Mr. Jaimini Kumar Srivastava.
- On 30th November, 2022, NHRC, Member, Mr. Justice M.M. Kumar delivered a statement in the 11th UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in the session- Asia Pacific : How to protect rights holders - A multi-stakeholder dialogue on Strengthening Accountability to Advance Business, Respect for People and Planet in the next decade.



Human Rights and NHRC in News

During November, 2022, the Media & Communication Wing of the Commission prepared and issued 16 press releases. 3172 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 683 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 37 tweets on the Commission's interventions & activities.



Complaints in November, 2022

Complaints received	7760
Disposed	8877
Under consideration of the Commission	14939

Important Telephone Numbers of the Commission:

Facilitation Centre (Madad) Incharge: Mrs. Rekha Bhalla
NHRC Toll Free No. 14433

For Complaints: Fax No. 011-2465 1332

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

Other Importance E-mail Addresses

jlawnhrc@nic.in (For complaints), cr.nhrc@nic.in
(For general queries/correspondence)

Focal point for Human Rights Defenders: Indrajeet Kumar

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