



HUMAN RIGHTS NEWSLETTER

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Meeting of the Task Force for National Action Plan on Human Rights

The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India organized a meeting of the task force for the National Action Plan on Human Rights (NAP-HR) on 18th February, 2021. NHRC Member, Dr. D.M. Mulay chaired it. The major actionable points emanated out of the meeting are as follows:

1. NHRC to prepare a template (format) of the National Action Plan on Human Rights and circulate among the concerned Ministries/Departments involved in the task force to submit in the prescribed format.
- ii. NHRC to coordinate with all the Ministries in seeking and

providing reference material and inform Union Ministry of Home Affairs, MHA, if a response is not received from the concerned Ministry or department within a month.

- iii. All Ministries of the task force to nominate a Deputy Secretary level officer as a nodal officer for the process of coordinating and collating NAP-HR from their respective Ministry/Department.



NHRC Member, Dr. D.M. Mulay chairing the meeting

Mr. Bimbadhar Pradhan, Secretary General and other senior officers of the Commission along with the representatives of the Union Ministries Departments, NGOs and Civil Society on board task force attended.

NHRC Short Film Awards

The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India organized an online film festival of award winning short films on human rights in 2020 and prize distribution function on 8th February, 2021. The winners were announced in December, 2020. NHRC Members, Mr Justice P.C. Pant, Mrs. Jyotika Kalra and Dr. D.M. Mulay presented

the awards in the presence of Secretary General, Mr. Bimbadhar Pradhan and other senior officers.

Mr. Ravindra Jadhav was



A scene from short film awards function

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**"Rights that do not flow from duty well performed are not worth having."
— Mahatma Gandhi**

awarded the first prize of Rs. 2 lakh and a certificate for his film "Thalsar Bangsar". The second prize of Rs. 1.5 lakh was jointly given to Nitin Ganorkar for his film "Womb of Melghat" and to Thomas Jacob for his film "Annam".

The third prize of Rs. 1 lakh was also jointly given to Jaya Jose Raj for his film "and thus man gets crushed again and again" and Vinod Garud for his film "Sappar". The three "Certificates of Special Mention" were awarded to Rashid Nimbalkar for his film "Dumroo", Gauravisinh Revar for "Saraswati" and Ms. Gautami Berde for her film "The woman on the street".

Congratulating the winners, Mr. Justice P.C. Pant, in his keynote address said that the films have

evolved as a very effective medium of expression on human life and sentiments, crossing the geographical boundaries of nations. These have proved to be very useful instruments for providing information, education and entertainment, which are an integral part of human existence. Just as a feature film can be described like a novel on celluloid, a short film may be described as a poem conveying a plethora of well layered thoughts in a very crisp manner.

NHRC Member, Dr. D.M. Mulay, as the chair of the jury, expressed happiness that the idea of the Commission is blossoming with several short films being made on varied aspects of human rights, particularly by the youth in various parts of the country in different Indian languages.

Earlier, NHRC Secretary General, Mr. Bimbadhar Pradhan, giving an insight into the short film competition of the Commission, noted that despite the challenges of Covid-19 and the lockdowns, people's efforts in raising concerns about human rights through short films have been remarkable. The Commission received 93 entries this year compared to 88 last year.

Senior officers of the Commission, including the Registrar (Law), Mr. Surajit Ray, Joint Secretaries, Mr. R.K. Khandelwal and Mrs. Anita Sinha, DIG, Mrs. Manzil Saini, Dy Director (M&C), Mr. Jaimini Kumar Srivastava, and external expert Member of the Jury and National Award Winner film Director, Mr. Arun Chadha and staff were present on the occasion.

Important Interventions

False implication and custodial rape Case No. 35244/24/11/2014-ar

The persistent follow-up by the National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India has resulted in filing of a charge sheet by the Government of Uttar Pradesh against a Sub Inspector in a case of illegal confinement, torture, false implication and custodial rape by him. The amount of interim relief of Rs. 5 lakh, Rs. 3 lakh and Rs. 1.5 lakh respectively to the three victims, including the woman, her husband and father-in-law, has also been paid on the recommendations of the Commission.

During the course of enquiry, the Commission had found that a young man and a girl from Balrampur district had eloped and got married in Mumbai in 2014. The girl's father lodged a complaint of kidnapping in the matter, following which the newly wed couple was called to Mathura police post of Balrampur district.

However, instead of taking a proper legal recourse in the matter, both of them were detained in

separate cells at the police post from the 12th - 13th August, 2014. The Sub Inspector subjected the girl to sexual assault. When the girl complained about her sexual assault by the Sub Inspector, no prompt lawful action was taken in the matter.

Death of a student due to the alleged corporal punishment Case No. 3142/20/21/2017

Setting aside the contention of the Govt. of Rajasthan, the National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India has reiterated its recommendation that the State initiate disciplinary action against the erring police officials for the delay in the registration of FIR on the allegations of fifth standard student's death due to the beating by a teacher at his school in Kota.

It has also asked the State Government, through its Chief Secretary, to pay relief of Rs 2 lakh to the victim mother of the deceased child as the delay in the registration of an FIR on her complaint in a cognizable offence, amounted to the violation of human rights.

The Styrene gas leakage tragedy Case No. 1023/1/21/2020

The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC India has accepted the action taken by the concerned authorities and the Ex-gratia of Rs. 1 Crore each paid to the families of the 12 people, who died in the Styrene gas leakage tragedy. The Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has informed the Commission that 485 people were paid Rs. 1 lakh each who were hospitalized for two-three-days. It has also informed that the criminal proceedings were initiated against the 12 accused.

The Commission had taken suo motu cognizance of media reports about the death of eight persons and over five thousand others falling sick due to the leakage of styrene gas in Vizag District of the State of Andhra Pradesh on the 7th May, 2020. The leakage of the gas had reportedly affected people within a radius of about 3 kilometers. Many people were reported lying on roads while some complained of difficulty in breathing and rashes on their bodies.

Murder of a journalist by the alleged sand mafia **Case No. 11059/24/71/2020**

The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India has accepted the action taken by the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, in response to its suo motu notice, that 16 accused were arrested for their involvement in the killing of a Journalist in Unnao district on 19th June, 2020. He was working as a correspondent with a Hindi Daily and reporting about the illegal sand mining in the district. He had apprehended threat to his life from the sand mafia.

Issuing the notices, the Commission had observed then that according to the media report, in many cases the media persons were being targeted by the anti-social elements, and in most of the cases, no action against the culprits was taken by the police authorities. It is the duty of the state to provide adequate safety and security to the media persons, who, in public interest, keep taking risks highlighting the illegal activities in society.

Custodial torture **Case No. 4461/30/6/2019**

The National Human Rights

Commission, NHRC, India, in a case of custodial torture by police in Delhi, has recommended that the Union Ministry of Home Affairs pay Rs. 1 lakh each to the two victims. It has also called for the report on the departmental action taken against the six erring police officials, who are facing trial before the court of Additional Sessions Judge, Rohini. They include one Inspector-SHO, ASI, HC, HV and two Constables.

The Commission had observed that from the material on record, prima-facie, it is established that the complainant and his nephew were given third degree torture.

Cases of Human Rights Defenders

The Commission registered 2 cases of alleged harassment of Human Rights Defenders during the month of February, 2021. Summaries of these cases are as under:-

Illegal arrest and torture **Case No. 337/7/19/2021**

Allegations were that Nodeep Kaur, a Dalit woman, was taken into custody at Kundli, Haryana while she was peacefully protesting for

the rights of the labourers. She also alleged that she was tortured in the police custody, misbehaved and abused. The Commission directed to transmit a copy of the complaint to the SP, calling for a report in the matter.

Illegal arrest **Case No. 231/1/21/2021**

Allegations were that a woman HRD, Annapoorna was arrested

by the Vishakapatnam Police on 15th Dec, 2020 without following the due process of law. They also forcefully took signatures of Annapoorna's mother. Further, the police have violated her rights to association under the fundamental rights in Part-IV of the Constitution. The Commission directed to transmit a copy of the complaint to the Commissioner of Police, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh for an appropriate action.

Recommendations for Relief

A part from a huge number of cases taken up daily, 59 cases were taken up by Full Commission and 111 cases by Double Bench in February, 2021. The Commission recommended monetary relief amounting to a total of Rs.1,65,95,000/- for the victims or their NoK, 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 Case	Amount (in Rs.)	Authority
1	217/1/4/2016-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Andhra Pradesh
2	843/25/19/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	250000	West Bengal
3	199/3/20/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Assam
4	1766/4/6/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Bihar
5	2054/4/18/2015-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Bihar
6	1249/4/30/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Bihar
7	1581/4/27/2015-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	100000	Bihar
8	3419/4/32/2017-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Bihar
9	260/33/16/2016-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Chhattisgarh
10	507/33/5/2015-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	500000	Chhattisgarh
11	657/33/1/2012-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Chhattisgarh
12	9/29/1/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Daman & Diu
13	173/8/9/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Himachal Pradesh
14	120/34/16/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Jharkhand
15	922/19/7/2017-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Punjab

S. N.	Case No.	Nature of Case	Amount (in Rs.)	Authority
16	37/22/5/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Tamil Nadu
17	843/22/37/2015-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Tamil Nadu
18	1056/24/43/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Uttar Pradesh
19	3014/20/29/2017-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Rajasthan
20	13853/24/27/2016-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Uttar Pradesh
21	24369/24/1/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Uttar Pradesh
22	32379/24/31/2017-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Uttar Pradesh
23	38603/24/7/2016-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Uttar Pradesh
24	151/4/38/2018-JCD	Alleged Custodial Deaths in Judicial Custody	200000	Bihar
25	2914/7/17/2011-AD	Alleged Custodial Deaths in Police Custody	400000	Haryana
26	18325/24/31/2012-AD	Alleged Custodial Deaths in Police Custody	400000	Uttar Pradesh
27	405/3/6/2015-PCD	Custodial Death (Police)	500000	Assam
28	1392/4/26/2018	Malfunctioning of Medical Professionals	100000	Bihar
29	373/34/16/2018	Malfunctioning of Medical Professionals	300000	Jharkhand
30	8513/24/48/2018	Malfunctioning of Medical Professionals	100000	Uttar Pradesh
31	788/4/32/2018	Inaction by the State / Central Govt. officials	200000	Bihar
32	165/4/12/2018	Inaction by the State / Central Govt. officials	400000	Bihar
33	542/35/3/2018	Inaction by the State/Central Govt. officials	100000	Uttarakhand
34	413/34/18/2015	Inaction by the State/Central Govt. officials	400000	Jharkhand
35	3483/18/10/2017	Inaction by the State/Central Govt. officials	200000	Odisha
36	706/19/14/2018	Inaction by the State/Central Govt. officials	100000	Punjab
37	1803/20/15/2018	Inaction by the State/Central Govt. officials	300000	Rajasthan
38	11436/24/25/2018	Inaction by the State/Central Govt. officials	100000	Uttar Pradesh
39	27014/24/32/2017-WC	Dowry Death or Attempt thereof	200000	Uttar Pradesh
40	8376/24/3/2017-WC	Dowry Death or Attempt thereof	50000	Uttar Pradesh
41	433/33/18/2013-AFE	Alleged Fake Encounters	400000	Chhattisgarh
42	393/13/34/2014-AFE	Alleged Fake Encounters	2100000	Maharashtra
43	1555/25/6/2014-ED	Death in Police Encounter	500000	West Bengal
44	2959/20/14/2017	Atrocities on SC/ST (By Police)	250000	Rajasthan
45	6/21/3/2017	Death In Police Firing	300000	Sikkim
46	13360/24/76/2018	Unlawful Detention	200000	Uttar Pradesh
47	15855/24/72/2018-WC	Abduction, Rape and Murder	100000	Uttar Pradesh
48	16072/24/76/2019	Custodial Torture	300000	Uttar Pradesh
49	25870/24/14/2019	Failure in Taking Lawful Action	300000	Uttar Pradesh
50	2465/4/9/2019-WC	Gang Rape	500000	Bihar
51	4251/30/5/2019	Child Rape	300000	Delhi
52	847/1/21/2019	Lack of Proper Medical Facilities in the State	500000	Andhra Pradesh
53	1330/7/22/2018-WC	Indignity of Women	100000	Haryana
54	1301/34/4/2015	Arbitrary Use of Power	500000	Jharkhand
55	3707/4/17/2018	Non-Payment of Pension/Compensation	500000	Bihar
56	1581/30/0/2018	Abuse of Power	20000	Delhi
57	2791/30/8/2016	Atrocities By Custom/Excise/Enforcement/Forest/Income-Tax Deptt., Etc. of Central/State Govts.	25000	Delhi

Payment of Relief on NHRC Recommendations

The Commission closed 93 cases on receipt of compliance reports from different public authorities, furnishing proof of payment, it has recommended an amount of total Rs. 2,11,92,740/- to the victims of human rights violations or their next of kin. The specific details of these cases, closed in February, 2021, can be downloaded from the NHRC website by logging the case number given in the table below:

S. N.	Case No.	Nature of Case	Amount (In Rs.)	Authority
1	36/2/15/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Arunachal Pradesh
2	1249/4/30/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Bihar
3	4124/4/37/2016-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Bihar
4	217/4/7/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Bihar
5	3419/4/32/2017-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Bihar

S. N.	Case No.	Nature of Case	Amount (In Rs.)	Authority
6	657/33/1/2012-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Chhattisgarh
7	507/33/5/2015-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	500000	Chhattisgarh
8	2511/30/9/2010-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	500000	Delhi
9	1050/34/6/2017-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Jharkhand
10	1575/34/5/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Jharkhand
11	979/34/16/2013-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Jharkhand
12	1371/12/30/2017-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	500000	Madhya Pradesh
13	1294/13/12/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	450000	Maharashtra
14	1430/19/18/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Punjab
15	1430/19/18/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Punjab
16	1639/20/7/2017-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Rajasthan
17	843/22/37/2015-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Tamil Nadu
18	993/36/0/2016-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Telangana
19	15203/24/25/2016-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Uttar Pradesh
20	19153/24/7/2018-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	500000	Uttar Pradesh
21	27968/24/59/2017-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Uttar Pradesh
22	3071/24/4/2016-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	200000	Uttar Pradesh
23	32379/24/31/2017-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	300000	Uttar Pradesh
24	77/11/12/2015-PCD	Custodial Death (Police)	300000	Kerala
25	39558/24/7/2016-PCD	Custodial Death (Police)	300000	Uttar Pradesh
26	571/33/14/2017-PCD	Custodial Death (Police)	300000	Chhattisgarh
27	176/7/19/2018	Custodial Torture	150000	Haryana
28	4552/18/7/2018	Custodial Torture	200000	Odisha
29	1392/4/26/2018	Malfunctioning of Medical Professionals	100000	Bihar
30	373/34/16/2018	Malfunctioning of Medical Professionals	300000	Jharkhand
31	11117/24/66/2013	Malfunctioning of Medical Professionals	100000	Uttar Pradesh
32	26535/24/72/2015	Malfunctioning of Medical Professionals	100000	Uttar Pradesh
33	2373/18/17/2018	Inaction by the State /Central Govt. officials	200000	Odisha
34	314/34/6/2019	Inaction by the State /Central Govt. officials	100000	Jharkhand
35	788/4/32/2018	Inaction by the State /Central Govt. officials	200000	Bihar
36	5272/18/10/2017	Inaction by the State/Central Govt. officials	300000	Odisha
37	706/19/14/2018	Inaction by the State/Central Govt. officials	100000	Punjab
38	1803/20/15/2018	Inaction by the State/Central Govt. officials	300000	Rajasthan
39	1803/20/15/2018	Inaction by the State/Central Govt. officials	300000	Rajasthan
40	25066/24/27/2016	Inaction by the State /Central Govt. officials	100000	Uttar Pradesh
41	33064/24/15/2016	Inaction by the State /Central Govt. officials	500000	Uttar Pradesh
42	28691/24/57/2016	Inaction by the State/Central Govt. officials	300000	Uttar Pradesh
43	3707/4/17/2018	Non-Payment of Pension/Compensation	500000	Bihar
44	14505/24/62/2014	Non-Payment of Pension/Compensation	100000	Uttar Pradesh
45	43035/24/35/2015	Non-Payment of Pension/Compensation	100000	Uttar Pradesh
46	1507/25/22/2018	Non-Payment of Pension/Compensation	100000	West Bengal
47	4060/18/2/2014	Irregularities in Govt. hospitals/Primary Health Centres	20000	Odisha
48	13619/18/1/2015	Irregularities in Govt. hospitals/Primary Health Centres	300000	Odisha
49	2387/18/12/2016	Irregularities in Govt. hospitals/ Primary Health Centres	300000	Odisha
50	10592/24/4/2016	Irregularities in Govt. hospitals/Primary Health Centres	100000	Uttar Pradesh
51	25878/24/20/2017	Irregularities in Govt. hospitals/Primary Health Centres	200000	Uttar Pradesh
52	30456/24/9/2016	Irregularities in Govt. hospitals/Primary Health Centres	100000	Uttar Pradesh
53	20292/24/7/2017	Failure in Taking Lawful Action	200000	Uttar Pradesh
54	27383/24/18/2017	Failure in Taking Lawful Action	200000	Uttar Pradesh
55	27675/24/21/2013	Failure in Taking Lawful Action	200000	Uttar Pradesh
56	37162/24/52/2017	Failure in Taking Lawful Action	200000	Uttar Pradesh
57	4470/24/47/2016	Failure in Taking Lawful Action	50000	Uttar Pradesh
58	48321/24/57/2015	Failure in Taking Lawful Action	50000	Uttar Pradesh
59	34021/24/72/2013	Failure in Taking Lawful Action	300000	Uttar Pradesh
60	7205/24/28/2018	Failure in Taking Lawful Action	200000	Uttar Pradesh
61	1581/30/0/2018	Abuse of Power	20000	Delhi

S. N.	Case No.	Nature of Case	Amount (In Rs.)	Authority
62	1628/25/13/2016-PF	Abuse of Power	50000	West Bengal
63	96/24/8/2016	Abuse of Power	100000	Uttar Pradesh
64	43688/24/7/2013-WC	Abduction, Rape And Murder	100000	Uttar Pradesh
65	35620/24/12/2016-WC	Abduction, Rape And Murder	500000	Uttar Pradesh
66	15855/24/72/2018-WC	Abduction, Rape and Murder	100000	Uttar Pradesh
67	3623/18/6/2014-WC	Abduction, Rape And Murder	500000	Odisha
68	3733/24/30/2017	Unlawful Detention	100000	Uttar Pradesh
69	3733/24/30/2017	Unlawful Detention	100000	Uttar Pradesh
70	27014/24/32/2017-WC	Dowry Death or Attempt there of	200000	Uttar Pradesh
71	8376/24/3/2017-WC	Dowry Death or Attempt there of	50000	Uttar Pradesh
72	2012/12/47/2017	Miscellaneous	300000	Madhya Pradesh
73	1337/25/15/2015	Miscellaneous	50000	West Bengal
74	811/10/1/2016	Atrocities on SC	50000	Karnataka
75	2959/20/14/2017	Atrocities on SC/St (By Police)	250000	Rajasthan
76	1640/12/38/2013-AD	Alleged Custodial Deaths in Police Custody	300000	Madhya Pradesh
77	4733/18/13/2017-AD	Alleged Custodial Deaths in Police Custody	500000	Odisha
78	603/36/2/2018-WC	Rape	300000	Telangana
79	26229/24/37/2018-WC	Rape	300000	Uttar Pradesh
80	13360/24/76/2018	Unlawful Detention	200000	Uttar Pradesh
81	1007/19/15/2014	Unlawful Detention	200000	Punjab
82	2791/30/8/2016	Atrocities by Custom/Excise/Enforcement/Forest/Income-Tax Deptt. Etc. of Central/State Govts.	25000	Delhi
83	878/12/28/2015	Hazardous Employments	887740	Madhya Pradesh
84	15540/18/3/2015	Children	300000	Odisha
85	3112/18/29/2014	Victimisation of SC	40000	Odisha
86	17426/24/35/2018	Harassment of Prisoners	500000	Uttar Pradesh
87	22266/24/12/2016	Service Matters	100000	Uttar Pradesh
88	30313/24/35/2017	Victimisation	50000	Uttar Pradesh
89	34070/24/4/2013-WC	Gang Rape	100000	Uttar Pradesh
90	40528/24/76/2015	Trouble by Anti-Social Elements	100000	Uttar Pradesh
91	44/27/0/2017	Exploitation of Children	200000	Chandigarh
92	1330/7/22/2018-WC	Indignity of Women	100000	Haryana
93	1646/4/32/2017	Arbitrary Use of Power	300000	Bihar

Success Stories

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

Rescuing bonded labour (Case No. 639/36/2/2020-BL)

NHRC took cognizance of a complaint that a minor girl was kept as a bonded laborer at a brick kiln near Hyderabad, who was constrained to borrow money from the brick kiln owner for the treatment of her ailing mother. Pursuant to the Commission's directions, it was bought out that she could not return to her village and had been forced to work till the recovery of

the advance money. She returned only with the help of the Local Public Representatives, District Administration and State Labour Machinery in the month of June, 2020. It was also directed that the victim is provided necessary assistance by the District Administration for her rehabilitation and the benefits of the social welfare scheme be extended to her, as per eligibility.

Police inaction in a case of kidnapping and rape (Case No.35620/24/12/2016-WC)

Allegation was that a victim of kidnapping and repeated rape was recovered by the police but she was kept in the police station for two

days in Banda, Uttar Pradesh. She was not sent for medical examination nor was her statement recorded. The police did not arrest the accused. In response to the notice of the Commission, the Superintendent of Police, Banda reported that an FIR was registered against the accused persons.

The Commission observed that the entire version of the police was not satisfactory. She was deprived of her right to fair and prompt investigation. There had been an inordinate delay of four months in registration of FIR. The Commissions therefore, recommended a sum of Rs 5 lakh to the victim, which was paid by the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh.

From Investigation Files

The Investigation Division of the Commission disposed of 393 files including 239 judicial custodial deaths, 64 police custodial deaths, 147 encounter deaths, 05 spot enquiries and 122 fact finding cases. This column carries a story unfolding an intricate case of human rights violations leading to diametrically opposite revelation to prima-facie claims and findings after investigations by the NHRC team.

Mishandling of weapons can lead to human rights violation (Case No. 131/8/11/2017)

This is a case from District

Baddi, Himachal Pradesh alleging the death of one Kamal Kant due to indiscriminate firing while careless handling of AK-47 rifle.

During the enquiry by Investigation Division, it was found that the police received information regarding an attempt to robbery at an ATM. As the police intercepted the criminals, there was a miss-fire from their AK-47 rifle causing death of one person and injury to another. The two persons were first time offenders and had no firearm weapons with

them. The inexperienced police personnel, who mishandled his weapon, AK-47 fired without care & caution, which does not justify the principle of minimum use of force & minimum restraint while containing the criminal act. Based on the findings of the Investigation Division, the Commission issued a notice to the Government of Himachal Pradesh why Rs. 5 Lakh should not be recommended to be paid to the next of kin of the deceased and action against the negligent police officers.

Spot Enquiries

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

S. No.	Case Number	Allegations	Date of visit
1	From Investigation Files	Police inaction despite complaint in a case of beating of an elderly in Faridabad, Haryana	01-05.02.2021
2	24184/24/43/2020	False implication and beating in custody at PS Nazirabad, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh	08-12.02.2021
3	640/24/78/2020	Mismanagement & corruption in Kasganj District Jail, Uttar Pradesh.	08-12.02.2021
4	2023/7/3/2019	False implication and torture in custody at PS Chhainsa, Faridabad, Haryana	04-08.11.2020
5	44649/24/52/2016-AFE	Death of young boy in fake encounter by police in Agra, Uttar Pradesh	22-26.02.2021

Discussion on Consumer Rights

The NHRC, India held an In-House discussion on Consumer Rights on 23rd February, 2021. Chairing it, the NHRC Member, Dr D. M. Mulay said that the Commission should take this subject forward in the areas as identified by Dr Jayashree Gupta, Special Monitor (Consumer affairs and food), NHRC. Earlier, a detailed presentation was made on various aspects of Consumer Affairs and food related issues by Dr.

Gupta, including among others, landmark cases and judgments, remedies available for a consumer, non-functional consumer Commissions in Uttarakhand. This was followed by discussions and answers to the queries by Mrs. Gupta. Mr Bimbardhar Pradhan, SG, NHRC and other senior officers



NHRC Member, Dr. D.M. Mulay, chairing the discussion

participated in the discussions.

Meeting on Central Sector Scheme (CSS), 2016

The NHRC, India held a meeting with the representatives of International Justice Mission (IJM), Foundation for Sustainable Development and Jan Sahas on 17th February, 2021. The aim was to discuss the experiences from the field regarding implementation of Central Sector Scheme (CSS), 2016. The NHRC was represented by Mr. Bimbardhar Pradhan, Secretary General, Mr. Surajit Dey, Registrar

(Law), Mr. R.K. Khandelwal, Joint Secretary (A&R) and Mr. Sudesh Kumar, Senior Research Officer.

The main challenges highlighted were as under:

- No time-bound initial cash assistance;
- Lack of corpus fund for rehabilitation of released bonded labourer;

- Inadequate or delayed proposals for funding made by States under the CSS, 2016;
- Lack of funds for training of government officials about existing provisions;
- Lack of convergence between different government departments for provision of non-cash relief and regular monitoring of the scheme.

Training initiatives for Human Rights Awareness

128 Student interns from various universities across the country participated in the Online Short Term Internship Programme of NHRC organized from 12th February to 26th February, 2021. The students were

addressed and interacted with the Members of NHRC, Chairpersons of State Human Rights Commissions, Secretary/ Addl. /Jt. Secretaries to Govt. of India, Major General of Indian Army / Air Vice Marshal of

Indian Air Force, DG/ ADG of Para Military Forces and state police as well as the scholars associated with various aspects of human rights.

NHRC-NYKS Human Rights Awareness Workshops

The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC provided support to the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, NYKS through its Media and Communication Wing, in organizing 3 online human rights awareness and orientation workshops various functionaries in West Bengal & Bihar on 11th February, 2021, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur & Sikkim on 12th February, 2021 and

Maharashtra & Goa, Chhattisgarh & Madhya Pradesh on 16th February, 2021.

The objective was to provide for exposure to the NYKS functionaries about the concept of human rights, violation thereof and redressal mechanism including intervention and activities of the NHRC so that they could further provide knowledge about the same to their

various youth volunteers.

The sessions were addressed by senior officers of the Commission including Mr. O.P. Vyas, Deputy Registrar (Law), Mr. Dushyant Singh, DySP, Mr. Jaimini Kumar Srivastava, Deputy Director (M&C), Mr. Sanjeev Sharma, Sr. System Analyst, Ms. Manzil Saini, DIG and Mr. Debendra Kundra, Assistant Registrar (Law) respectively.

Other Important Programmes

During February, 2021, NHRC, Member, Mrs. Jyotika Kalra addressed a webinar titled "Rajaswala Talks" on menstrual health. She also visited SHRC Tamil Nadu and the best practices and procedures followed by the NHRC for Online Short Term Internship Programme and

"Complaint Handling Mechanism. The Member interacted with NGOs and addressed a function on the World Day of Social Justice. Mrs. Kalra also delivered a lecture in the webinar on Human Rights for the Faculty Induction Programme- organised by UGC-Human Resource

Development Centre, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

- NHRC Secretary General, Mr. Bimbardhar Pradhan, chaired a video conference with senior officers, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh for expediting pending reports in human rights cases on 19th Feb 2021.

Human Rights and NHRC in News

During February, 2021, the Media & Communication Wing of the Commission prepared and issued 8 press releases. 2115 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 154 News Clippings were NHRC specific. 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 76 tweets on the Commission's interventions & activities.

Complaints in February, 2021

Complaints received	7212
Disposed	8518
Under consideration of the Commission	13750

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.in, hrcnet.nic.in, Common Service Centres

Other Important E-mail Addresses

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This Newsletter is also available on the Commission's website www.nhrc.nic.in

NGOs and other organization are welcome to reproduce material of the Newsletter and disseminate it widely acknowledge the NHRC

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