



HUMAN RIGHTS NEWSLETTER

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"All experiences are preceded by mind, having mind as their master, created by mind." Gautam Buddha

NHRC Chairperson, Mr. Justice H.L. Dattu says, the Commission is open to suggestions from civil society, NGOs and human rights defenders to ameliorate the cause of human rights

The NHRC Chairperson, Mr. Justice H. L. Dattu has said that the Commission is always open to the suggestions from the civil society, NGOs and human rights defenders towards fulfilling its mandate for the promotion and protection of human rights under the Protection of Human Rights Act. He was chairing a meeting of the Commission's Core Group of NGOs and Human Rights Defenders, HRDs at Manav Adhikar Bhawan, New Delhi on the 13th June, 2019. He said that the Commission treats human rights defenders and the civil society as its eyes and ears, as the whole idea is how best to serve the cause of human rights. In this context, the Commission is also open to criticism for course correction, if any required.

Justice Dattu said that in its short journey of over 25 years since its inception in 1993, the NHRC, India has endeavoured to create an enabling environment for the realization of civil and political rights, as well as social and

economic justice. However, despite its efforts to safeguard human rights, newer challenges continue to emerge, making it imperative for the Commission and other civil society actors to act expeditiously to devise measures to address these new challenges. The meeting discussed various dimensions of the protection of HRDs and the ways in which challenges faced by them across India could be addressed.

Pant, Mrs. Jyotika Kalra and Dr. D.M. Mulay, D.G. (I), Mr. Prabhat Kumar, Registrar(Law), Mr. Surajit Dey, J.S.(P&T), Dr. Ranjit Singh and other senior officers, NHRC Core Group Members and human rights defenders and civil society representatives from leading NGOs in different parts of the country.

Several important suggestions emerged from the discussions, some of which are as follows:



The meeting of the Commission's Core Group of NGOs and Human Rights Defenders in progress

Earlier, Mr. Jaideep Govind, Secretary General, NHRC highlighted how the Commission has expanded its outreach through HRCnet portal and Common Service Centres across the country. He said that the Commission has also further improved its complaint management system.

The participants included NHRC Members, Mr. Justice P. C.

- Advise police not to summon those HRDs who file complaints of human rights violations of others;
- Set a time frame for the disposal of the complaints of human rights violations of HRDs, especially those related to threat to their life;
- Complaints of false implication should not be ordinarily disposed of by the Commission treating them as sub-judice;
- NHRC should intervene for expeditious trial of court cases which involve HRDs;
- Post NHRC investigations in a matter, the time taken in

processing to dispose the case needs to be expedited;

- Conduct research study to know the causes behind the continued violation of human rights of a particular category;
- Develop a working definition

of human role of the human rights defenders rights, which is easy to understand for all;

- Initiate measures to stop motivated targeting of selected human rights defenders and their organizations through income tax notices;

- Look into the notification for setting of foreigners' tribunals and faulty mechanism of appeals against their orders;
- Take a position on the issue of National Register of Citizens and detention centres.

NHRC open forum participants say fixing agrarian crisis key to ending bonded and migrant labour problem in the country

The participants of the NHRC open house discussion on bonded and migrant labour, held at the Commission's premises on the 8th June, 2019, felt that the root cause of this menace lies in the agrarian crisis, which needs to be addressed on priority in the country. It was also suggested that a letter from the Prime Minister to the Chief Ministers will help priorities this issue on the lines of mission mode campaigns like Swacch Bharat Abhiyan.

Earlier, expressing serious concern over the continuance of this problem, the NHRC Member, Mr. Justice P.C. Pant, in his opening remarks, said that a preventive approach is needed to end bonded labour, as it has acquired various new forms and dimensions with the changing times and vocations since the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act was enacted in 1976.

Justice Pant said that bonded labour contracts are not purely economic in India; these are reinforced by custom or coercion in many sectors such



Open house discussion on bonded and migrant labour in progress

as the agricultural, silk, mining, match production and brick kiln industries, among others. He said that robust inter- state coordination mechanisms involving all ministries, agencies, trade unions and NGOs are required to address the issues of migrant workers, who may end up becoming bonded labour.

Dr. D. M. Mulay, Member, NHRC said that for the robust implementation of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, it will be necessary to increase the conviction rate of those involved in subjecting people to bonded labour to act as a deterrent. It is

required to expose all the elements that contribute to propagate this menace.

Mrs Jyotika Kalra, Member, NHRC said that the Commission has been very proactively taking the cognizance of the complaints related to bonded labour. She suggested that the NGOs should try sending online complaints to the Commission by geo-tagging the photos showing bonded labour. Online complaints are easy for quick processing, monitoring and effective action to catch the culprits.

Mr. Jaideep Govind, Secretary

General, NHRC said that the social and economic marginalization of weaker sections and their inability to move out of their respective group makes them particularly vulnerable to forced labour and human trafficking. Moreover, he said, the lack of labour regulations in informal and unregulated sectors creates huge power imbalances in employer-worker relationships and increases workers' vulnerability to exploitation.

Therefore, concerted efforts including community based movements and grassroots awareness campaigns, involving all stakeholders are urgently required.

Mr. Ajay Tiwari, Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of Labour and Employment said that despite the efforts, there are still many challenges in the way of effective implementation of Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act. Some of these are:

Almost nil convictions, high pendency of summary trials at DM level, S.21 struck down by MP, TN, and Maharashtra High Courts, Concerns over double jeopardy, mismatch of names on release certificate & Bank A/C, Rehabilitation linked to convictions, Less sensitivity of the District Machinery/ Vigilance Committees,

Poor inter-departmental coordination, confusion over migrant workers issue of RC, Requirement of Aadhaar, bank details.

He said that the Centre is focused on resolving them with the states. Besides taking various measures, it is providing financial assistance to states for some specific purposes in this regard as follows:

- (i) ₹4.50 lakh per district to the States for conducting survey of bonded labourers once every three years;
- (ii) ₹1.00 Lakh for evaluatory studies (maximum 5 Evaluatory Studies per year) and
- (iii) ₹10 Lakhs per State per annum for awareness generation.

Several important suggestions emerged during the discussions, some of which are as follows:

- Develop a page on the national portal for data pooling on bonded labour from various sources and particularly from

the NGOs working in the field for a fair assessment of the enormity of the problem;

- Upload all schemes and guidelines related to bonded labour on the national portal, which can be easily accessed by the field level functionaries for building awareness;
- Create a mechanism for providing job cards to released

bonded labourers so that they could get employment under MNREGA and other such schemes of assured employment;

- Design a common training curriculum for members of Vigilance Committees;

- Work on a mechanism for the portability of PDS and health care for bonded labour;
- Sensitize political parties, leaders and Panchayats through letters and broadcasting messages on radio and television about the problem of bonded and migrant labour.

The participants included senior NHRC officers, Special Rapporteurs, members of NHRC Core Group on bonded and migrant labour, representatives of government, civil society and international bodies.



A scene from open house discussion on bonded and migrant labour

NHRC's month long summer internship programme concludes

The month long summer internship programme of the National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India concluded at its premises in New Delhi on the 14th June, 2019. The Commission organizes month long winter and summer internships every year. This was the 33rd internship. Forty six post graduate level students, mainly from law and social sciences streams, representing different colleges and universities of 19 States/UTs in the country attended it and received certificates.

Sapna, Symbiosis Law School, Pune, Pranitha. P. Pai, Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA, Janhavi Suhas Hardas, Symbiosis Law School, Pune and Saptadipa Mallick, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati got the cash awards of ₹6000/, ₹5000/, ₹2000/ and ₹2000 each for the first, second, third and fourth best

intern respectively.

Addressing the valedictory session, Mr. Justice P.C. Pant, Member, NHRC congratulated the interns for the successful completion of their training and expressed the hope that they would use it for the promotion



Interns with the NHRC Members and senior officers

and protection of human rights. Earlier, Mr. Jaideep Govind, Secretary General, NHRC described them as the ambassadors of the Commission for expanding its outreach for the cause of human rights and wished them good luck for their future careers.

During the internship, the students were exposed to various aspects of human rights including international covenants and domestic laws, mandate and functioning of the NHRC, India. Besides the NHRC Members and senior officers, many renowned subject specialists and experts interacted with them. They were also taken for field visits to prisons, police stations and NGOs for the first hand experience of working there. They were also guided to write dissertation on some important issues of human rights.

NHRC Member, Dr. D.M. Mulay, Director General (Investigation), Mr. Prabhat Singh, Registrar Law, Mr. Surajit Dey, Joint Secretary (P & T), Dr. Ranjit Singh and other senior officers were present.

Suo Motu Cognizance

Case No. 1127/20/0/2019

The Commission took suo motu cognizance in 02 cases of alleged human rights violations reported by media during 1-15th June, 2019 and issued notices to the concerned authorities for reports. Summaries of the cases are as follows:

Children being used as pawn to get money for food

The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India has taken suo motu cognizance of a media report that there are several villages in Banswara district of the State of Rajasthan wherein more than 500 families were found to have used their children as pawn in exchange of ₹1500 to 2000 from

the Gadaria (Shepherd) community to get food. The media report has also carried the photographs of the children, aged 8 to 12 years, who had been pledged for money.

The Commission has issued a notice to the Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan calling for a detailed report in the matter. It has asked the State Government

to inform about the status of implementation of flagship programmes announced and being run by the Central and state governments in Rajasthan.

Assault on a TV journalist by GRP personnel

Case No. 16072/24/76/2019

The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India has taken suo motu cognizance of media reports that just a few hours after the Supreme Court ordered the release of a journalist, another TV journalist in the West Uttar Pradesh's Shamli district was brutally assaulted by the SHO of the Government Railway

Police, GRP on Tuesday, 11th June, 2019 night. He along with and a constable was booked and suspended after videos of the attack went viral the next day.

The Commission has issued a notice to the Director General of Police, Uttar Pradesh calling for a detailed report in the matter.

Issues of Human Rights Defenders

The NHRCs focal point for human rights defenders, Mr. Khaleel Ahmad, Deputy Registrar (Law) has processed the following complaints related to the violation of rights of human rights defenders:

A complaint alleging illegal arrest/detention of a Manipuri youth was transmitted through WhatsApp to SG by Mr. Sanjoy Hazarika, Director, CHRI. The complaint was forwarded to the undersigned on 15.6.2019 (Saturday), for urgent action. The Focal Point on Human Rights Defenders contacted the SP, Cyber Crime, Lucknow, and obtained a report in the matter. The complaint was registered as Case. No. 16413/24/48/2019.

In another matter, a communication was received from Mr. R.H. Bansal, by the Focal Point for Human Rights Defenders of the Commission, apprehending eminent threats to his life. The matter was immediately taken up with the SSP, Ghaziabad for urgent necessary action in the matter and for providing protection to the Human Rights Defender, if the circumstances warrant so.

Another communication was

received on the from the Human Rights Defender Mr. Radhakanta Tripathy, Advocate alleging imminent threats to his use. The matter was immediately taken up with the Commissioner of Police, Delhi for urgent necessary action.

Further update on the other complaints of human rights defenders is as under:

1. Case No. 1008/25/19/2019

Mr. Henri Tiphagne, National Working Secretary, Human Rights Defenders Alert-India has sent a complaint to the Commission alleging arbitrary arrest of Ms. Sharmistha Choudhury, a human rights defender on fabricated charges by West Bengal Police in Panapukur Village, Bhangar area, South-24 Pargana, West Bengal. The Commission transmitted a copy of complaint to DGP, Govt. of West Bengal, Kolkata, calling for a report.

2. Case No. 16359/24/57/2019

Mr. Henri Tiphagne, National Working Secretary, Human Rights Defenders Alert-India has brought to the notice of the Commission that Shri Krishnapal, a Human Rights Activist who had been raising his voice against the land

mafia was attacked by some goons in Shahpur, Muzaffarnagar, UP. He was allegedly shot thrice on his hand leading to severe injuries. The matter is under consideration of the Commission.

3. Case No. 16450/24/48/20

Mr. Henri Tiphagne, National Working Secretary, Human Rights Defenders Alert-India has sent a complaint to the Commission alleging that the police personnel in plain clothes from PGI Police Station and Aashiana Police Station of Lucknow and Member of Special Task Force forcibly entered in the office premises of Human Rights Monitoring Forum without any search warrant. The police allegedly intimidated and threatened them. The matter is under consideration of the Commission.

4. Case No. 16483/24/48/2019

Mr. Sanjoy Hazarika, International Director, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) has sent a complaint to the Commission alleging that Prashant Kanojia and other media professionals were arbitrarily arrested on the charges of maligning Chief Minister of U.P.

The matter is under consideration of the Commission.

5. Case No. 565/36/2/2019

Mr. Henri Tiphagne, National Working Secretary, Human Rights Defenders Alert-India has complained to the Commission that one Lateef Mohammed Khan, Headmaster of Govt. High School, Nampally, Telangana was arbitrarily suspended from the services for raising people's concern as a civil rights activist and human rights defenders. The Commission has directed the Principal Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Telangana, Hyderabad to take appropriate action within eight weeks associating the victims and to inform them/complainant about action taken in the matter.

6. Case No. 572/36/3/2019

Mr. Henri Tiphagne, National Working Secretary, Human Rights Defenders Alert-India has brought to the notice of the Commission that Dr. Sujata Surepally, a scholar and a dalit activist and other student of Satavahana University, Telangana were being threatened and defamed through a campaign by the ABVP. A concern is raised about their security. The Commission directed the DGP, Govt. of Telangana, Hyderabad to take necessary action in the matter.

7. Case No. 731/6/21/2019

Mr. Venkatesh Nayak of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative has brought to the notice of the Commission that one Rajesh @ Raju Sondharva (19 years) who is son of the RTI activist and human rights defender Late Shri Nanjibhai Meghabhai Sondharva, was murdered since he was pursuing the case of murder of his father and has refused to compromise with the murderers who had been threatening, not to pursue the case of murder of his father. The matter is under consideration of the Commission.

8. Case No. 935/13/16/2019

Mr. Andrew Anderson, Executive Director, Front Line Defenders, Dublin, Ireland has brought to the notice of the Commission that Ram Puniyani, Human Rights Defender, a former Professor of IIT, Mumbai was threatened by unidentified persons by the Hindutva activist for speaking out against communalism. The matter is under consideration of the Commission.

9. Case No. 981/13/16/2019

Mr. Henri Tiphagne, a human rights activist on behalf of Human Rights Defenders' Alert-India has expressed grave concern over filing criminal cases by the CBI

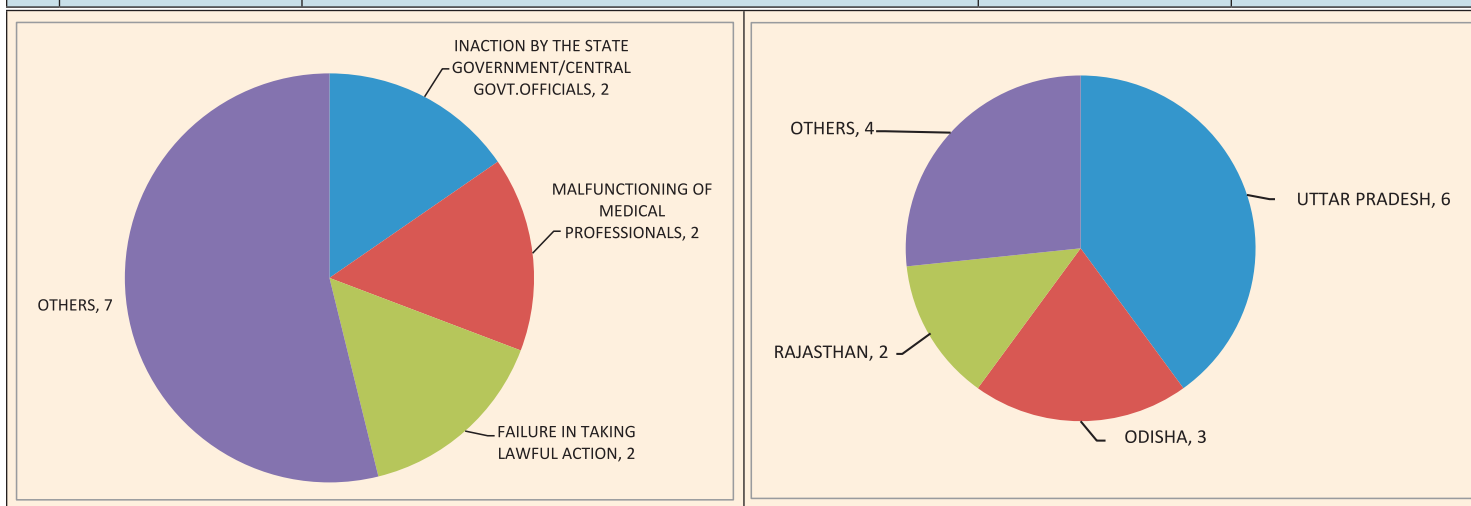
on 13.06.2019, against senior Advocate Anand Grover and its other unnamed functionaries of "Lawyers Collective" in the matter of alleged violation of FCRA. It is stated in the complaint that the FIR was uncalled for but filed to harass them irrespective of the fact that the order of the MHA for cancellation of registration of Lawyers Collective under FCRA to receive foreign funding was challenged in the High Court of Mumbai and the same is under consideration of the Court. It is pleaded in the complaint that filing of FIR in the matter is solely based on a report of the Ministry of Home Affairs pertaining to the year January, 2016. There has been no change in circumstances or material on record since then. Hence it has no material basis for filing FIR at this stage.

Considering that Mr. Anand Grover and Ms. Indira Jaising have been actively raising the issues pertaining to alleged violation of human rights across the country and looking into their active role in the civil society, the Commission directed that copies of the complaints lodged by Mr. Henri Tiphagne and Ms. Maja Daruwala be transmitted to the Director, Central Bureau of Investigation, New Delhi calling for present status of the investigation in the matter.

Recommendations for relief

Apart from the large number of cases taken up daily by individual Members, 27 cases were taken up during 02 sitting of Divisional Bench w.e.f. 1st June, 2019 to 15th June, 2019. On 13 cases, listed in the table below, the Commission recommended monetary relief amounting to a total of ₹2525000/- for the victims or their next of kin, 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 no given in the table below:**

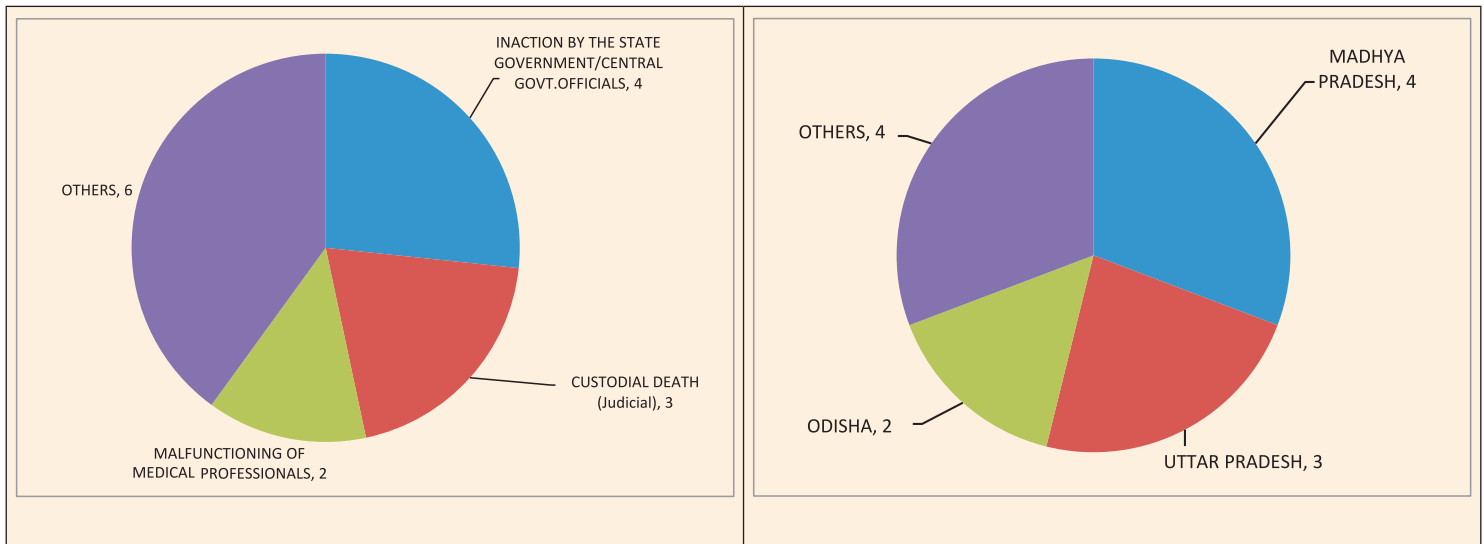
Sl. No.	Case Number	Nature of Complaint	Amount Recommended (in ₹)	Public Authority
1	3037/20/29/2015	MALFUNCTIONING OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS	400000	RAJASTHAN
2	32401/24/47/2016	MALFUNCTIONING OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS	300000	UTTAR PRADESH
3	395/19/2/2017-JCD	CUSTODIAL DEATH (Judicial)	200000	PUNJAB
4	1846/12/55/2016-AR	ALLEGED CUSTODIAL RAPE IN JUDICIAL CUSTODY	300000	MADHYA PRADESH
5	878/12/28/2015	HAZARDOUS EMPLOYMENTS	400000	MADHYA PRADESH
6	1045/12/36/2012-PCD	CUSTODIAL DEATH (Police)	500000	MADHYA PRADESH
7	2093/12/46/2017	FAILURE IN TAKING LAWFUL ACTION	100000	MADHYA PRADESH
8	1235/35/5/2017	FAILURE IN TAKING LAWFUL ACTION	100000	UTTARAKHAND
9	12184/24/47/2017-WC	ABDUCTION, RAPE AND MURDER	100000	UTTAR PRADESH
10	1352/25/5/2017-WC	SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT WORKPLACE (GOVT.OFFICES)	200000	WEST BENGAL
11	3099/18/13/2017	INACTION BY THE STATE / CENTRAL GOVT.OFFICIALS	300000	ODISHA
12	18807/24/43/2016	INACTION BY THE STATE / CENTRAL GOVT.OFFICIALS	300000	UTTAR PRADESH
13	3112/18/29/2014	VICTIMISATION	40000	ODISHA



Compliance with NHRC recommendations

The Commission closed 15 cases on receipt of compliance reports from different public authorities, furnishing proof of payments, it had recommended, totalling ₹3240000/- the victims of human rights violations or their next of kin. **The specific details of these cases, closed w.e.f. 1st June, 2019 to 15th June, 2019, can be downloaded from the NHRC website by logging the case no given in the table below:**

Sl. No	Case Number	Nature of Complaint	Amount Recommended (in ₹)	Public Authority
1	2857/13/2/2015	MALFUNCTIONING OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS	50000	MAHARASHTRA
2	34380/24/48/2015	MALFUNCTIONING OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS	100000	UTTAR PRADESH
3	60/34/6/2011-JCD	CUSTODIAL DEATH (Judicial)	100000	JHARKHAND
4	1857/19/15/2013-JCD	CUSTODIAL DEATH (Judicial)	500000	PUNJAB
5	1858/24/4/2016-JCD	CUSTODIAL DEATH (Judicial)	300000	UTTAR PRADESH
6	344/20/24/2014	IRREGULARITIES IN JAIL	50000	RAJASTHAN
7	48490/24/62/2015	ABUSE OF POWER	100000	UTTAR PRADESH
8	854/20/14/2015-PCD	CUSTODIAL DEATH (Police)	100000	RAJASTHAN
9	48077/24/9/2015	FAILURE IN TAKING LAWFUL ACTION	100000	UTTAR PRADESH
10	24274/24/31/2015-WC	INDIGNITY OF WOMEN	100000	UTTAR PRADESH
11	34369/24/1/2013-WC	RAPE	25000	UTTAR PRADESH
12	1820/30/8/2012	INACTION BY THE STATE / CENTRAL GOVT.OFFICIALS	400000	DELHI
13	15826/18/7/2015	INACTION BY THE STATE / CENTRAL GOVT.OFFICIALS	100000	ODISHA
14	3489/18/27/2017	INACTION BY THE STATE / CENTRAL GOVT.OFFICIALS	300000	ODISHA
15	3490/18/6/2017	INACTION BY THE STATE / CENTRAL GOVT.OFFICIALS	200000	ODISHA



Implementation of HRCNet Portal in State Human Rights Commissions

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has developed Human Rights Commissions Network (HRCNet) portal (<https://www.hrcnet.nic.in>) with the technical assistance of NIC. This portal can be used by all Human Rights Commissions in the country for Online Complaints Lodging/tracking System and handling of complaints received offline i.e. by hand, post etc.

HRCNet portal is enabling the NHRC in efficient handling of complaints for many years. This

software is useful in processing of complaints at every stage such as complaints diarization, cases registration, entry of Commission's proceeding etc. This software will also assist all Human Rights Commissions in the country in handling the complaints efficiently and in timely manner.

NHRC has conducted several workshops to get the State Human Rights Commissions on-board on the HRCNet Portal. At present, out of 26 SHRCs, 15 SHRCs have already started using the HRCNet

portal. NHRC is making efforts for on-boarding of remaining SHRCs so that these Commissions can also take the huge benefit of linkage particularly w.r.t. duplicate checking of complaints between received in NHRC and SHRCs.

In the month of June 2019, SHRC States of Chhattisgarh, Sikkim and Haryana have sent their consent to National Human Rights Commission for joining the HRCNet Portal. Implementation of HRCNet in these has been started by NHRC.

Video Conference with senior officers and Nodal officers, Human Rights (Civil & Police) in States and UTs

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has reviewed the cases pending in the Commission. It was found that most of the cases are pending for non-receipt of reports from Govt. Authorities in States/UTs. To increase the coordination between NHRC officers and Govt. Authorities, the Commission has nominated its officers from Law Division as nodal officers to

follow up with the Government authorities for getting the reports pending with them.

To further strengthen coordination with them, the Secretary General, NHRC, Mr Jaideep Govind has been holding video conferences (VCs) with the Home Department, Police Department, State Nodal Officers Human Rights (Civil & Police) and

other senior officers in States/UTs. VC is also joined by Director General (Investigation), Mr Prabhat Singh, Registrar(Law), Mr Surajit Dey and other NHRC officers including Dy. Inspector General, Sr. Superintendent of Police, Joint Registrar (Law), NHRC Nodal officer for State, Dy. Director (M&C) and Senior Systems Analyst to discuss the pendency, case by case and the measures, such as linking NHRC

on line complaint filling system with CSCs, taken by the Commission to expand its outreach.

During the VCs with 31 States/UTs, NHRC also sensitized the Govt. Officials on human rights and made them aware about the initiatives taken by the Commission to increase its outreach. The officials were requested to spread the awareness among general public about the facility lodging human rights violation complaints through Common Service Centres and NHRC toll-free number 14433.



In order to enable the State Nodal Officers, Human Rights (Civil & Police) to see the details of pending cases of respective states, the NHRC has made provision in its HRCNet Portal (www.hrcnet.nic.in). Through the portal, Nodal officers can see complaint details, complainant details, incident details and all orders passed by the

commission in the matter and can upload the pending reports.

Government officials from States/UTs welcomed the coordination exercise started by the NHRC through video-conferencing and assured NHRC to send the pending reports in a time-bound manner and showed willingness also to spread awareness about the use of Common Service Centres for lodging human rights complaints.

Project report of the research study titled “Agrarian Crisis and Farmers’ Suicides-An Empirical Study of Endemic States-Issues and Concerns” by NIRDPR

The National Human Rights Commission had entrusted the research study titled “Agrarian Crisis and Farmers’ Suicides-An Empirical Study of Endemic States-Issues and Concerns” to National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR), Hyderabad. The aim of the study was to explore the factors (agrarian, social, economic and psychological) that influence

the farmers most, in committing suicides and suggest suitable measures to mitigate the distress.

The major recommendations of the study have been sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, National Crime Record Bureau, Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Ministry of Panchayat Resources, Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd, National Institute of

Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Reserve Bank of India, NABARD and the State Governments’ of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka. A copy of the complete research project report may be accessed from the Commission’s website: www.nhrc.nic.in.

Presentation on the Research Project titled “Transgender Inclusivity: A Reality Check”

The National Human Rights Commission has entrusted a research project titled “Transgender Inclusivity: A Reality Check (Kolkata)” to Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad, Jharkhand. The study attempts to unveil the socio - economic facets of the

trans people’s lives, fathoms the pangs and misery of this sexually handicap class, examines the spaces available to them, and finally sees if these spaces actually accommodate the transgender community.

The main objectives of the

study include the brief overview and analysis of the success and failure of the ongoing schemes for Transgenders in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal; the working of Transgender Board in Tamil Nadu; exploring and examining the various factors responsible for exclusion

of transgenders; finding out the kinds of problems that they face, determining their access to various services/ amenities/ facilities and examining the Transgender Bill.

In this connection, Dr. Rajni Singh, Principal Investigator and

Associate Professor, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, made a presentation on the status of project on 6th June, 2019, through Video Conferencing. The presentation was held under the chairmanship of Mrs. Jyotika Kalra, Member, NHRC. Mr. Jaideep Govind, SG, NHRC; Mr. Dilip

Kumar, JS (A&R) and Dr. M.D.S. Tyagi, JD(R) were present.

After intensive discussions during the Video Conferencing, the following action points were recommended to the Principal Investigator.

Research project titled "Assessment and Evaluation of Business and Human Rights Reporting by Corporate India"

The Commission has entrusted a research project titled "Assessment and Evaluation of Business and Human Rights Reporting by Corporate India" to Indian Institute of Management Bangalore with an objective to make comprehensive assessment of labour/employee rights commitment through corporate

responsibility reporting that analyses the dimensions of employee rights that are relevant and meaningful for reporting. The Principal Investigator of the project, Prof. Vasanthi Srinivasan, made a presentation on the status of the research project through video conferencing on 11 June 2019 in the Commission. The presentation

was held under the chairmanship of Shri Jaideep Govind, Secretary General, NHRC and was attended by other senior officers.

Among the various aspects, the study will also explore and recommend on how NHRC can facilitate its role as quasi judicial body.

Snippets

Hindi Journal Editorial Board Meeting

NHRC Member, Dr. D.M. Mulay, chaired an editorial board meeting on 6th June 2019 at NHRC premises to decide the contents of Hindi Journal 'Manav Adhikar- Nai Dishayien (Vol.16) (Year 2019). Besides the NHRC Secretary General, Mr. Jaideep Govind, and other



officers, the participants included Prof. Girishwar Mishra, Former Vice Chancellor, Prof. Jagdishwar Chaturvedi, Former President, Hindi Deptt. Kolkata University, Prof. Kumud Sharma, Hindi Deptt. Delhi University and Dr. Vinaj Kumar Sharma, Chief Editor, Shodh Sanchar Bulletin, Lucknow.

International Yoga Day Celebration



International Yoga Day 21 June, 2019

Appointment

The NHRC has appointed Mr. Umesh Kumar as its Zonal Special Rapporteur for North-East Zone for a period of one year w.e.f. 7th June, 2019 to 6th June, 2020.

