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#### From the Editor's Desk

bserving Human Rights Day on the 10<sup>th</sup> December reminds us of the perennial importance of human rights. The Lok Sabha Speaker, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, as the Chief Guest, at a function of the NHRC, organised to mark the Day, augmented the significance of this Day by emphasizing that human rights should not be seen in isolation but in the context of entire scheme of this universe, comprising various other living beings, much in line with Indian culture.

Shortage of drinking water, decreasing ground water level, water contamination and excessive fluoride are being faced as major challenges in the country. Recently, there was a media report about 19 States having excessive fluoride in drinking water with dangers of causing various diseases to a large section of population. The country would definitely need a joint strategy to combat this problem before it acquires serious proportion. Therefore, it is comforting to learn that the Union Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation is working on it in close coordination with States and is expected to make a presentation before the NHRC.

The incidents of bonded labour continue to happen despite various laws to stop this menace. In yet another such case, covered in this issue, the Commission has called for reports. Abject poverty and the tendency to look out for cheep labour directly correspond to this problem and unfortunately, alternatives to earn a living under various Government schemes have somehow not been very effective.

The issue of rights over forestland and its produce has continued to bring face to face in confrontation the respective State Governments with the people residing nearby forests and more importantly the Adivasis who have been traditionally dependent on their livelihood from forests. This is a ticklish issue as it involves, on one hand, the misuse of forestland and its produce by unscrupulous elements and, on the other, the bare necessity of poor people who cannot survive without forests. The issue is also of development versus conservation of eco-system. But when such confrontations lead to a situation of brutal assault on poor and gullible people becoming victims of atrocities by the forest officials, the Commission has no option but to question them for taking law in their hands. One such case has been pegged in this issue.

### Lok Sabha Speaker lauds NHRC on Human Rights Day

he National Human Rights L Commission organised a special function in New Delhi to observe Human Rights Day on the 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 to draw attention towards the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), which was adopted and proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1948. The theme of this year's Human Rights Day - "Human Rights 365" encompassed the idea that every day was Human Rights Day and everybody at all times was entitled to the full range of human rights.



accompanied by the NHRC Chairperson, Members lighting the lamp on HR Day

Addressing the gathering as the Chief Guest on the occasion, the Lok Sabha Speaker, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan said that we should be concerned about the entire universe and not limit ourselves talking only about the rights of



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human beings. The United Nations may have decided in 1948 to observe the 10<sup>th</sup> December as Human Rights Day but India has a long tradition of not only giving importance to human beings but also to all living beings in the universe who are interdependent and live with mutual co-existence in harmony. This also reflected through our centuries old culture and literature which talk of 'Vasudhaiv

Kutumbakam', i.e., 'World is for all'.

Smt. Mahajan also said that the protection and promotion of human rights and observation of Human Rights Day should not be the responsibility of the NHRC alone or a government but of all people. She said that it would not be just sufficient to talk of human rights on a particular day but to become sensitive towards each other's rights and duties for all time.

Appreciating NHRC's photo exhibition on its activities and children's paintings on human rights issues, she lauded the consistency with which the Commission was working towards promotion and protection of human rights, since its inception in 1993, through its various interventions, recommendations, seminars, conferences, camp sittings, awareness programmes, visits to jails and other places.

The Lok Sabha Speaker said that a balance should be maintained in our approaches towards the rights of victims of human rights violation and those who are guilty of violating them. She observed that demonizing security forces all the time for rights violations might not be a correct approach. They too have their rights and constraints.

Referring to various

rights violations, including the rights of women and children, their right to education and issue of honour killings, Smt. Mahajan said that a lot was needed to be done to make society think about these issues and to bring about a change in the mindsets towards girls and children.



The NHRC Chairperson, Justice Shri K.G. Balakrishnan said that governments must ensure that policies and programmes devised by them have a strong human rights component for an equitable and truly beneficial utilization of national and human resources. He said that the Commission regards the governments and civil society as indispensible partners in its efforts and activities towards the promotion and protection of various civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

Justice Balakrishnan said that in 2013-14 alone, the Commission registered 98,136 fresh cases with action having being completed in 92,292 cases. During the period, the Commission also recommended payment of interim relief in 443 cases amounting to ₹151.953 million.

Ms. Kiran Mehra-Kerpelman, Director, United

Nations Information Centre in India read out Human Rights Day message of the UN Secretary General, Mr. Ban Ki Moon, who emphasized upon justice for individuals, social stability and global progress and held them as key to protect human rights.

Earlier, NHRC Secretary General, Shri Rajesh Kishore, while welcoming the dignitaries, highlighted the role of the NHRC, India and





the challenges before it in safeguarding human rights of a large population. He also administered human rights pledge to the gathering on the occasion.

The Lok Sabha Speaker also released six NHRC publications including, English Journal, 'Manav Adhikar: Nayi Dishayen', which are compilations of articles by eminent persons on various aspects of

human rights, 'Manav Adhikar Sanchika' and a Handbook of Spot Enquiries.

Several dignitaries, including, present and former NHRC Members, senior officers, representatives of UN agencies and other eminent persons attended the Human Rights Day function organised by the Commission.



section of dignitaries including former NHRC Members and senior officers

## NHRC Chairperson's message on the eve of Human Rights Day - 2014

Fellow citizens, greetings to you all on the eve of Human Rights Day, which is tomorrow – the 10<sup>th</sup> December. This is a solemn occasion to remind each one of us that human rights are universal and inalienable rights of every human being by birth. These rights have to be observed, promoted and protected by each and every individual, throughout the year on a continuous basis as aptly suggested by the slogan 'Human Rights 365', adopted by the United Nations for this year's Human Rights Day.

Therefore, the onus to observe Human Rights Day lies not only with the National or State Human Rights Commissions but also with the Governments. I appeal to all the Heads of the Governments to come forward on this solemn occasion to endorse publicly the importance of Human Rights Day through various forums in order to help usher in a culture of human rights in the country. This should reflect in our mindsets and behaviour in personal and public life.

I am confident that sincere efforts will be made by the various Government functionaries about the protection and promotion of human rights so that there is an environment of zero tolerance to human rights violations. As of now, the increasing number of complaints of human rights violations is a serious concern for the National Human Rights Commission. While these complaints reflect apathetic attitude of public functionaries towards common man, they also show the growing awareness of people about their rights and faith in the functioning of the NHRC, which has been tirelessly working towards the protection and promotion of human rights for the last 21 years.

Let us take a pledge that each one of us will stand-up for the promotion and protection of human rights and that we will not be party to any such action through words or deed that may undermine the rights of others towards a life of dignity. No occasion than Human Rights Day can be better to orient ourselves towards achieving this goal of promoting the culture of Human Rights amongst the masses ...... Jai Hind. //

## NHRC Chairperson's message on "Human Rights Defenders Day"

11 Today, on 9th December, the day when the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders was adopted in the year, 1998 by the UN General Assembly, the NHRC, India reiterates its resolve to strengthen the Human Rights Defenders as an integral part in its strategy to strengthen the human rights culture in India and across the globe.

HRDs have always been instrumental in fighting for the cause of human rights. However, their efforts were provided impetus through the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders which was adopted by UN General Assembly on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 1998. NHRC, India too, right since inception in 1993, has played a very important role in promoting and protecting the rights

of HRDs. Justice Ranganath Mishra, the first Chairperson of National Human Rights Commission always gave due opportunity and voice to the people who fought for promotion and protection of human rights. His work has not only been carried forward by the Commission but there has been substantial expansion in its activities for promotion and protection of rights of HRDs.

The creation of Focal Point for HRDs, inclusion of chapter on HRDs in the Annual Report, publication of cases of HRDs on the NHRC website, are just few of the initiatives made by the Commission. NHRC gives special attention to complaints of alleged harassment of HRDs. These complaints are registered as separate category for proper monitoring and follow-up. The Commission takes all possible steps, as per law and based on merits, to provide an effective and substantive relief to the HRDs while dealing with complaints pertaining to them.

The Commission interacts with the Human Rights Defenders at all levels to understand their problems and bottlenecks. The Commission meets the NGOs/HRDs through the Focal Point for HRDs by participating in various programmes/events across the country. Further during the Open Hearings/Camp Sittings, the Commission organises special interaction session with the HRDs and representatives of NGOs. The feedback received during these interactions are given due consideration by the Commission and all possible steps are taken to ameliorate the problems being faced by them. To cite an example, keeping in view the threats and harassment of the HRDs, the Commission wrote a letter dated 11.12.2013 to Chief Secretaries of all the States about the problems being faced by the Human Rights Defenders/NGOs and requested the State Governments to treat them as partners in bringing out a positive change in human rights environment in the State.

The Commission also came out with the publication titled 'NHRC and Human Rights Defenders.' The Growing Synergy which was released by the Vice President of India on 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2013, i.e., the Human Rights Day. The book details the role being played by the National Human Rights Commission in promoting and protecting the rights of HRDs.

The Commission further feels elated that one of the members of its Core Group of NGOs and a renowned Human Rights Defender in the area of child rights, Shri Kailash Satyarthi, has been bestowed upon with the Noble Peace Prize for the year 2014. The Commission will continue to support the endeavours of HRDs who work with similar commitment and zeal towards humanity.

The Commission reiterates that the noble movement which started with the 1998 Declaration on HRDs has not gained momentum. The work of HRDs in partnership with the other state and non-state actors will have a far reaching impact in improving and strengthening the human rights situation throughout the country and also globally.

## Suo motu cognizance

The Commission took suo motu cognizance in 18 cases of alleged human rights violations reported by media during December, 2014 and issued notices to the concerned authorities for reports. Summaries of some of these cases are as follows:

# **60** people lose eyesight in a botched up surgery (Case No.1639/19/6/2014)

The media reported on the 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 that 60 persons lost eyesight after cataract surgery at a camp in Village Ghumman, District Gurdaspur, Punjab. It was organised by an NGO. Reportedly, 16 victim patients were from Amritsar and the remaining were from Gurdaspur. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary, Secretary, Health, Government of Punjab and District Magistrate, Gurdaspur calling for reports.

#### **Bonded labourers**

(Case No. 45055/24/55/2014-BL)

50 bonded labourers were rescued from a brick kiln at Sinhar village area in District Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2014. Most of these workers were from Bihar. Reportedly, the kiln owner failed to provide minimum wage register during the raid carried by the Officers of the Labour Department. The Additional Labour Commissioner said that the number of bonded labourers could be more.

The Commission has issued notices to the District Magistrate, Mirzapur, Labour Commissioner, Government of UP and Labour Commissioner, Government of Bihar calling for reports about the number of labourers rescued; monetary relief and rehabilitation provided to them.

#### 30 thousand quacks

(Case No. 1892/22/6/2014)

Media reported that 30,000 fake doctors were practicing in Tamil Nadu. The State President of the Indian Medical Association was quoted to have disclosed this during a meeting held at Namakkal, Tamil Nadu. Allegedly, in the backward Districts of Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri, particularly, a number of fake doctors were practicing affecting health of people.

The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu, Secretaries of Medical Council of India and Tamil Nadu State Medical Council calling for reports. They have also been directed to submit a report on the action taken to prosecute the quacks.

# Death of a student due to thrashing by Principal (Case No. 48849/24/14/2014)

The media reported that the Principal of DSR Public School at Rath in District Bareilly of Uttar Pradesh so brutally thrashed an Upper KG student, Mohammad Araj that he eventually lost his life. Reportedly, the Principal was upset over non-payment of school fees. Severely wounded seven-year-old child, Mohammad Aaraj, was rushed to the hospital by the Principal and School Manager, where the doctors declared him dead. Thereafter, the school authorities dumped his body on the highway.

The Commission has issued notices to the Principal Secretary, Education Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh and Superintendent of Police, Bareilly calling for reports.

#### Atrocities on Christians

(Case Nos. 3470/12/14/2014, 582/11/13/2014, 1096/10/7/2014, 1049/33/1/2014, 2079/22/11/2014)

The media reported acts of violence and atrocity against Christians at various parts of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu.

In Madhya Pradesh, allegedly, churches had been vandalized. Incidents of arson, stone pelting, attack on Pastors and forcible conversions etc. were also reported to have had happened at Devas, Satna, Katni, Indore, Bhopal, Alipur and Mandla districts.

In Chhattisgarh also, churches were vandalized amidst incidents of arson, stone pelting, attack on Pastors (arrest/harassment by police), diktat on Missionary schools, disruption of Carols and Sunday services, ban on Christians' entry into villages, forcible conversion, refusal to supply ration under PDS etc in Jagdalpur, Bhilai, Durg, Jaspur, Bastar and Mahasamund districts.

In Thrissur and Mallapuram districts of Kerala, Chitradurg, Devangere, Karwar and Udupi in Karnataka and Karoor and Thirunelveli districts in Tamil Nadu also, similar incidents were reported to have had happened.

The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretaries, Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu calling for reports. They have also been directed to send a report on the action taken to prevent reoccurrence of such incidents in future.

# **19 States with excessive fluoride in drinking water** (Case No. 3094/20/0/2014)

The media reported that drinking water in 14132 habitations in 19 States contained fluoride above the permissible level. The huge population was at risk of a very serious health condition such as skeletal fluorosis.

The Commission has directed the Secretary, Drinking Water and Sanitation Ministry, Government of India to make a presentation on the 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 on the gravity of the problem and the steps taken by the Central government and various State governments to combat it.

## NHRC's spot enquiry

 $\Gamma$  ollowing is the list of cases wherein spot enquiries were conducted by the Commission's officers:

SI. No.	Case Number	Allegations	Date of visit
1.	2981/7/6/2013	A family of 5 persons attempted suicide due to police torture in Hissar, Haryana	1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> December, 2014
2.	363/33/0/2013	Police inaction on a complaint that houses/ huts of 46 families of Begga tribe residing in the forest area of District Kabirdham in Chhattisgarh were demolished by the forest officials with the help of police.	16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> December, 2014
3.	389/34/11/2011-CL	Child labour in illegal coal mines in District Hazaribagh, Jharkhand.	26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> December, 2014
4.	48224/24/55/2014-BL	District Administration's non-cooperation in rescuing bonded labourers in District Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh.	28 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> December, 2014
5.	3572/30/10/2013	Atrocity against aged and ailing parents by their son in East of Kailash, New Delhi.	29 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> December, 2014

## **Important Intervention**

#### NHRC files Writ Petition in the Supreme Court in connection with its order on encounter killings

The National Human Rights Commission filed a Writ Petition in the Supreme Court in connection with its order in the case of PUCL related to encounters. The Commission requested intervention of the Apex Court to issue a writ of Mandamus to the concerned governments and

police authorities to continue to send the reports/information asked for by the NHRC and to abide by the guidelines issued by it in May, 2010 in regard to the procedure to be adopted in cases of encounter killings.

The Commission also requested the Apex Court to issue Mandamus to the concerned governments and police authorities not to construe the guidelines issued by the Hon'ble Court in the case of PUCL in such a manner as to obstruct enquiries by the NHRC in cases of encounter.

It may be recalled that the Supreme Court had recently passed a judgement in a petition by PUCL on encounters. The Apex Court in its order had said, among other things, that the intervention of the NHRC was not necessary unless there was serious doubt about the independent and impartial investigation. However, the information of the incidents, without any delay, must be sent to the NHRC. As regards compensation to be provided to the dependents of the victims who suffered death in a police encounter, the

scheme provided under Section 357 (A) of Cr.P.C. must be applied.

The NHRC, through this Writ Petition, had sought to raise, among others, the following points:

- 1. Under Section 12 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, the NHRC has a statutory duty to look into all cases of violation of human rights, which also includes right to life involved in the cases of death in encounter.
- 2. Who and when will decide the issue of serious doubt about the independent and impartial investigation?
- 3. What is the purpose of information to the NHRC if not actionable?
- 4. The power of the NHRC to reward compensation is independent of Section 357 (A) of Cr.P.C.

#### Forest officials' brutal assault on poor villagers of northern Tamil Nadu

The National Human Rights Commission has taken cognizance of a complaint with a video clip alleging that forest officials of Andhra Pradesh were taking law in their hands by brutally assaulting some workers who belonged to bordering Districts of Vellore, Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri in northern Tamil Nadu.

Allegedly, these workers were very poor and depended on forest produce for their livelihood. Their abject poverty compelled them to cut trees on orders of some unscrupulous elements engaged in illegal trade of high value timber. The poor villagers were not aware of legal consequences of their actions.

Considering the allegations as very serious, the Commission has observed that the law enforcement

agencies can exercise their powers only in accordance with the provisions of law. The video clips displayed a dismal picture of an unarmed worker who was made nude and brutally attacked by certain persons claiming to be forest officials of Andhra Pradesh. Their action was not only brutal but also amounted to serious violation of human rights. The Commission has also observed that such actions should not only be condemned but also severely punished.

Accordingly, notices have been issued to the Chief Secretary and Director General of Police, Government of Andhra Pradesh calling for reports. They have also been directed to report on the action taken against the gangs involved in felling of valuable trees.

#### Recommendations for relief

A part from the large number of cases taken up daily by individual Members, 109 cases were considered during 05 sittings of the Full Commission and 04 sittings of Divisional Benches in December, 2014.

On 31 cases, listed in the table below, the Commission recommended monetary relief amounting to a total of  $\stackrel{\checkmark}{\sim}$  67.6 lakh 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.

SI. No.	Case Number	Nature of Complaint	Amount Recommended (in ₹)	Public Authority
1.	8498/24/4/2012 <b>-</b> JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Three lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
2.	12311/24/24/2012-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	One lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
3.	25380/24/31/2013-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	One lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
4.	4023/24/26/2012-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Three lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
5.	43069/24/4/2012-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Three lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
6.	1043/30/9/2012-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Two lakh	Government of NCT of Delhi
7.	2632/30/1/2012-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Three lakh	Government of NCT of Delhi
8.	22/11/2/2012-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	One lakh	Government of Kerala
9.	354/11/13/2013-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Three lakh	Government of Kerala
10.	618/33/5/2012-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	One lakh	Government of Chhattisgarh
11.	443/22/7/2013-JCD	Custodial Death (Police)	Three lakh	Government of Tamil Nadu
12.	12161/24/79/2012-AD	Alleged Custodial Deaths (Judicial)	Three lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
13.	7/14/4/2010-AF	Alleged Fake Encounter	Ten lakh	Government of Manipur

SI. No.	Case Number	Nature of Complaint	Amount Recommended (in ₹)	Public Authority
14.	14358/24/4/2013	Harassment of Prisoners	Twenty five thousand	Government of Uttar Pradesh
15.	1160/25/15/2011	Failure in taking lawful action (Police)	Ten thousand	Government of West Bengal
16.	42115/24/43/2013	Failure in taking lawful action (Police)	Three lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
17.	3622/13/33/2012	Failure in taking lawful action (Police)	Twenty five thousand	Government of Maharashtra
18.	536/20/34/2012	Abuse of Power (Police)	One lakh fifty thousand	Government of Rajasthan
19.	1266/24/4/2012	Abuse of Power (Police)	Fifty thousand	Government of Uttar Pradesh
20.	43643/24/52/2013	Abuse of Power (Police)	One lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
21.	29965/24/38/2011	Illegal Arrest (Police)	Fifty thousand	Government of Uttar Pradesh
22.	559/33/5/2013	Unlawful Detention (Police)	Fifty thousand	Government of Chhattisgarh
23.	24780/24/78/2013-WC	Rape	One lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
24.	142/20/14/2014-WC	Abduction, Rape & Murder	Three lakh	Government of Rajasthan
25.	2481/18/12/2013	Inaction by State/Central Government Officials	Three lakh	Government of Odisha
26.	2486/18/12/2013	Inaction by State/Central Government Officials	Two lakh	Government of Odisha
27.	2489/18/21/2013	Inaction by State/Central Government Officials	Three lakh	Government of Odisha
28.	2494/18/21/2013	Inaction by State/Central Government Officials	Three lakh	Government of Odisha
29.	2506/18/28/2013	Inaction by State/Central Government Officials	Three lakh	Government of Odisha
30.	9071/24/57/2014	Inaction by State/Central Government Officials	Two lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
31.	26885/24/48/2011	Malfunctioning of Medical Professionals	Three lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh

# Compliance with NHRC recommendations

In December, 2014, the Commission received 25 compliance reports from different public authorities, furnishing proof of payments it had recommended, totalling

 $\stackrel{?}{\phantom{}_{\sim}}$  37.75 lakh to the victims of human rights violations or their next of kin. Details are in the table below:

SI. No.	Case Number	Nature of Complaint	Amount Recommended (in ₹)	Public Authority
1.	2456/24/67/2010-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Three lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
2.	5488/24/72/2010-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Twenty thousand	Government of Uttar Pradesh
3.	4206/24/22/2011-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Three lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
4.	21927/24/48/2011-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Three lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
5.	16300/24/7/2012-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	One lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
6.	42961/24/46/2012-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Three lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
7.	1522/4/26/2012-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Fifty thousand	Government of Bihar
8.	422/25/5/2011-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	One lakh	Government of West Bengal
9.	466/6/25/2011-JCD	Custodial Death (Judicial)	Three lakh	Government of Gujarat
10.	237/6/4/08-09-PCD	Custodial Death (Police)	One lakh	Government of Gujarat
11.	1122/13/2005-2006-CD	Custodial Death (Police)	Three lakh	Government of Maharashtra
12.	1789/13/28/09-10-PCD	Custodial Death (Police)	One lakh	Government of Maharashtra
13.	1264/34/2004-2005-CD	Custodial Death (Police)	One lakh	Government of Jharkhand
14.	5683/24/31/2011	Custodial Torture (Police)	Sixty thousand	Government of Uttar Pradesh
15.	44971/24/51/2011	Unlawful Detention (Police)	Fifty thousand	Government of Uttar Pradesh
16.	39034/24/54/2012	Unlawful Detention (Police)	Fifty thousand	Government of Uttar Pradesh
17.	291/19/3/2013-WC	Abduction/Rape (Police)	One lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
18.	25774/24/72/2011	Atrocities on SC/ST (Police)	One lakh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
19.	28319/24/43/09-10	Disappearance	Ten thousand	Government of Uttar Pradesh
20.	48405/24/7/2010	Non-payment of Pension/ Compensation	Fifty thousand	Government of Uttar Pradesh
21.	205/13/34/2011	Atrocities by Forest Department	Twenty five thousand	Government of Maharashtra
22.	1577/20/6/2011	Malfunctioning of Medical Professionals	Fifty thousand	Government of Rajasthan
23.	2321/20/20/2011	Irregularities in Government Hospitals/	Ninety thousand	Government of Rajasthan
		Primary Health Centres		
24.	4794/30/9/2011	Negligence by State Government	Two lakh twenty thousand	Government of NCT of Delhi
25.	2556/7/3/2011	Inaction by State Government/	Six lakh	Government of Haryana
		Central Government Officials		

# Justice Shri D. Murugesan, Member, NHRC visits a school for orthopaedically handicapped children in Madurai

Justice Shri D. Murugesan, Member, NHRC accompanied by Shri Shyam Sunder, Special Rapporteur, NHRC, visited the Government School for the Severely Orthopaedically Handicapped Children at Housing Board Colony, Villapuram, Madurai, Tamil Nadu on the 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2014. He took stock of the problems relating to the functioning of the school. The school authorities expressed their concern over hike in Electricity Board charges and said that the annual allocation of ₹16,000/- was insufficient to meet its functional requirements.



## **NHRC** to hold Camp Sitting at Allahabad

The NHRC will be holding its Camp Sitting for the matters pertaining to Districts of Allahabad, Kaushambi, Pratapgarh, Fatehpur, Chitrakoot, Banda, Faizabad,

Ambedkar Nagar and Sultanpur at Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh from the 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2015. NHRC Member, Shri S.C. Sinha will chair the Camp Sitting.

## **NHRC's Winter Internship begins**

Amonth long Winter Internship Programme of the NHRC commenced from the 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2014. 50 students of legal studies and various disciplines of social sciences from different Universities and Colleges of 17 States/UTs were shortlisted for the internship.

The interns will be given exposure to various aspects of

the functioning of the Commission, national and international Laws and Covenants on Human Rights. They will also be taken for field visits to police stations, prisons and NGOs. The interns will also be assigned different subjects concerning human rights for their dissertations.

### Other important visits/seminars/programmes/conferences

Events	Delegation from NHRC
Inauguration of SANA's Integrated Solar Powered Water Purifying Station Programme at villages Boduvasa and Devarapalli, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh on the 18 <sup>th</sup> December, 2014	Justice Shri K.G. Balakrishnan, Chairperson

# Complaints received/processed in December, 2014 (As per an early estimate)

Number of fresh complaints received in the Commission	9778
Number of cases disposed of including fresh and old	11645
Number of cases under consideration of the Commission including fresh and old	43726

#### **Important Telephone Numbers of the Commission:**

Facilitation Centre (Madad): 011-2465 1330 For Complaints: Fax No. 011-2465 1332

#### **Other Important E-mail Addresses**

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

#### **Focal point for Human Rights Defenders**

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