



LG names three members to police complaint panel

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Lieutenant governor Anil Baijal on Tuesday appointed three members of the police complaint authority (PCA), but it is yet to have a chairperson.

The members—retired IAS officer Nutan Guha Biswas, ex-IPS officer P Kamraj and advocate Tinu Bajwa—will have a tenure of three years. They will report directly to the LG and can be removed only by him on the grounds of misconduct, negligence and holding another office of profit during the tenure.

The chairperson will be chosen from a panel of names proposed by the chief justice of the Delhi high court.

A notification on forming the authority was issued on January 29, which explains the appointment, removal, and terms and conditions of the appointment. It also mentions the roles and functions and the powers of the authority.

Biswas had served as an additional secretary with the Union women and child development ministry, while Kamraj was special commissioner (law and order) with Delhi Poli-

ce till last year. Bajwa has been a noted lawyer at the Delhi high court.

As per the notification, the authority will inquire into allegations of serious misconducts—harassment, abuse, extortion, unlawful detention or arrest—against police personnel, either on its own or on a complaint received from a victim or a person on his/her behalf on a sworn affidavit, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the LG, or the chief secretary or the principal secretary (home) of the Delhi government.

PCA may not entertain those cases which are under consideration of any court or NHRC or any other statutory body. But cases of complaints regarding Delhi Police will be looked into by PCA, and not by Public Grievances Commission, the notification adds. "Accordingly, the cases relating to Delhi Police pending with Public Grievances Commission will be transferred to PCA," the notification states.

Human rights groups have been demanding multiple PCAs in Delhi, keeping in mind the huge number of personnel employed by Delhi Police.