



Family refuses to accept body, Sonowal pacifies kin

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

EIGHT days have passed, but the family of a declared “foreigner” **Dulal Paul**, 64, in Assam is refusing to accept his body even after the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has registered a case in connection with the death.

Activist Manas Roy said he had received an acknowledgement from the NHRC on October 18 pertaining to the registration of the case. He had petitioned the NHRC alleging that Paul was sent to the Tezpur detention camp in 2017 despite his family furnishing evidence of his citizenship.

Abhijit Sarma, the chief of

an NGO ‘Assam Public Works’ that first moved the Supreme Court seeking the NRC updation, alleged Paul was wrongfully incarcerated. “He was a genuine citizen but the government had put him inside a detention centre. As this is a

serious issue of human rights, the government must do everything required including paying adequate compensation to the family,” Sarma said.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal promised that he will visit Paul’s residence in Sonitpur district after the body is cremated. The family is demanding that the government declare Paul as an Indian and not an illegal immigrant.





NHRC files case on death of 'foreigner'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GUWAHATI

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has registered a case involving the death of a 65-year-old man in detention as a declared 'foreigner' in Assam as members of his family refused to receive his body for the eighth day on Sunday.

Dulal Paul, who required regular check-ups at a mental asylum, died of diabetes and renal complications at the Guwahati Medical College and Hospital on October 13 after undergoing treatment for 15 days. He was lodged at the Tezpur detention camp in north-central Assam on October 11, 2017, after a Foreigners' Tribunal in Sonitpur district declared him a foreigner.

"I received an acknowledgement from NHRC on October 18 regarding registration of the case," Guwahati-based activist Manas Roy said on Sunday.

"Dulal Paul was thrown to the Tezpur detention camp in 2017 despite showing proof of Indian citizenship. He was denied proper medical treatment and died... His rights as a citizen of India were breached by the authority," Mr. Roy's complaint read.



JUSTICE

NHRC slams police for death by negligence

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has directed the Delhi Police commissioner to pay ₹3 lakh within six weeks to the next of kin of a tempo driver who died on Geeta Colony flyover due to negligent placement of barricade by the police in January last.

The Commission also directed him to detail the departmental action taken against negligent police officials involved within four weeks.

The order came on a plea filed by human rights activist and Supreme Court lawyer Radhakanta Tripathy which alleged that Dharmender Rajput succumbed to injuries after hitting the police barricade due to negligence of police officials who placed the barricade in a wrong and negligent manner in the middle of the Geeta colony flyover.

Early this year, the additional commissioner of police, vigilance, had informed the NHRC that on the intervening night of January 19-20, Dharmender, driver of a tempo, had been signalled to stop at a police picket but accelerated and hit the barricade. The police gave chase and Dharmender, who was reportedly drunk, hit the flyover wall and suffered serious injuries. The police then called up his family and asked them to shift him to a hospital where he died later.

Tripathy further alleged that the police did not even care to take the victim to the hospital.

The Delhi Police had informed the Commission that head constable Naval Kishore and constable Prabhu Yadav, allegedly responsible for the incident, had been suspended and a departmental probe had been initiated against them.

The Commission found that the police did not perform their duty properly and did not take immediate steps to save the life of victim. "If those steps had been taken, then possibly the life of victim could have been saved," the apex human rights protection body said.



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