NHRC sends notice to A.P. Chief Secretary on bonded labourers in Anantapur



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Government Hospital for medical tests and determination of age. I Photo Credit: R.V.S. Prasad

Commission directs district authorities to immediately rescue all the labourers, issue release certificate and start the process of payment of the statutory relief

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), taking suo motu cognisance of a report published in *The Hindu* on 32 bonded labourers, including 12 children, seeking liberation from drudgery at Sagar brick kiln in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh, has issued a notice to State Chief Secretary asking for a report on the steps taken to free them.

The NHRC in a release late on Tuesday said: "The Commission has observed that the contents of the media report, if true, indicate that the district authorities have failed to do their lawful duty to protect the labourers from victimisation. Hence, strict action is required to be taken against the delinquent officers and appropriate legal action is also required to be taken against the brick kiln owner. Accordingly, it has issued a notice to the Chief Secretary, Government of **Andhra Pradesh**, calling for a detailed report in the matter within one week."

The Child Welfare Committee chairperson of Anantapur had visited the brick kiln and referred the children to the Government Hospital for medical tests and determination of age, which will be done on Wednesday. Meanwhile, the Garladinne Tehsildar said it was not a case of bonded labour as they had taken ₹35,000 per person in advance through a manpower supplier in Bolangir in Odisha.

Human rights

NHRC issues notice to Andhra govt on 32 bonded labourers rescued from Anantapur

The NHRC has taken suo motu cognisance of the case and sought a detailed report from the chief secretary within one week.

- Charan Teja
- Wednesday, November 20, 2019 15:38



In the wake of reports of at least 32 bonded labourers from Odisha being held captive in a brick kiln unit in Garladinne of Andhra's Anantapur district, who have subsequently been rescued, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued a notice to the state government.

The NHRC in a press release stated that it has taken media reports about the ordeal of the labourers into suo motu cognisance and sought a detailed report from the chief secretary of Andhra Pradesh within one week.

NHRC, based on the media reports, stated that the district authorities have failed to do their lawful duty to protect the labourers from victimisation and hence, strict action is required to be taken against the delinquent officers and appropriate legal action is also required to be taken against the brick kiln owner.

Shoddy ambulance: NHRC asks state health body to act in 8 weeks

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The matter was brought to the notice of NHRC by a Delhi-based lawyer, who got to know about the incident via a...Read More

Dehradun: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Wednesday directed the secretary of department of medical health and family welfare, Uttarakhand, to take appropriate action in a matter in which an elderly man from Rudraprayag district died after he was allegedly transported to the hospital in a "boneshaker ambulance".

The matter was brought to the notice of NHRC by a Delhi-based lawyer, who practices in the Delhi high court (HC), and got to know about the incident via a Facebook post.