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Allahabad HC takes note of police excesses on protesters

Sends notice to UP Govt, wants it to respond by Jan 16

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

LUCKNOW, JANUARY 8

The Allahabad High Court has taken a stern view of recent police high-handedness in dealing with the anti-CAA protests in Uttar Pradesh.

While it has sent a notice to the Uttar Pradesh Government over reported police excess in Muzaffarnagar and Bijnor, it has asked the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to probe into the alleged police violence in Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) during the anti-CAA protests.

Taking cognisance of an email sent to Chief Justice Govind Mathur by a Mumbai-based lawyer Ajay Kumar, the Allahabad High Court has asked the state government to file a reply by January 16. Kumar has sought a judicial probe into the police action in Muzaffarnagar and Bijnore based on newspaper reports.

Treating the email as a writ petition, CJ Mathur and Justice Vivek Varma sought a response from the state government.

In one of the news reports, the students and inmates of



Cops 'batoncharge' protesters at an anti-CAA rally in Kanpur. FILE

a Muzaffarnagar madarsa had accused the police of inhuman atrocity on December 20 during the anti-CAA protests.

In the second instance, the same Division Bench of Chief Justice Govind Mathur and Justice Vivek Varma directed the NHRC to complete the probe into the alleged police violence that took place in AMU during the anti-CAA protests on December 15. This order came on a PIL filed by Mohammad Aman Khan against the police action unleashed in AMU on that night.

The High Court has directed the NHRC to complete the probe within a month.

The case has been listed for hearing on February 17.

In the case, the petitioner had sought directions from the court to set up a courtmonitored committee to conduct a judicial inquiry into the acts of police violence.

The petitioner had also sought an order directing the state to declare names of those students and residents of AMU who had been detained by the police.

Khan has also asked for criminal proceedings to be initiated against police and paramilitary personnel who can be recognised from the videos and audios committing violence against the students.



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NHRC sends notice to the Government of Rajasthan

The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, has taken suo motu cognizance of media reports about the death of more than 100 children at a government-run hospital in Kota in the month of December, 2019. Reportedly, over 50 per cent of the gadgets installed in the hospital are defunct and the hospital is lacking cleanliness and basic infrastructure including oxygen supply ICU.

The notice has been issued to the Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan to submit a detailed report, within four weeks.