



AMU violence: HC asks UP Chief Secy, DGP to adhere to NHRC's recommendations

PRAYAGRAJ (UP), Feb 24:

The Allahabad High Court today directed the Uttar Pradesh Chief Secretary and DGP, the CRPF DG, the VC and Registrar of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) to adhere to the recommendations of the NHRC, including paying compensation to six students who were grievously hurt in police action and acting against the policemen who lathicharged students during an anti-CAA protest on the university campus on December 15 last year.

The court directed the officers concerned to comply with the order and file a compliance report by March 25, the next date of hearing.

The bench comprising Chief Justice Govind Mathur and Justice Samit Gopal passed the order on a petition filed by Mohammad Aman Khan of Prayagraj, alleging police brutality on students.

The petition urged the court to pass several directions, including one to set up a court-monitored committee for a judicial inquiry into acts of violence and arbitrary detention of students by the Uttar Pradesh police and paramilitary forces on the AMU campus from December 12 to December 15 last year.

On January 8, the high court had asked the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to conduct an inquiry into the matter and the same was done by a six-member team of the rights body.

The report submitted by the team was accepted by the NHRC. Subsequently, a copy of the report, along with the order of the proceedings, was sent to the court.

The NHRC recommendations include paying compensation to six students who were grievously injured in the police lathicharge and disciplinary action against the policemen seen in CCTV footage indulging in caning students and damaging two-wheelers on the university campus.

The commission also recommended that the police force, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Rapid Action Force (RAF) should be sensitised and there should be special training modules to inculcate professionalism in handling such situations.

The court also directed the state Director General of Police (DGP) to ensure that the Special Investigation Team (SIT) set up vide its order of January 6 investigated all the related cases on merit and in a time-bound manner. (PTI)



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NHRC sends notice to UP Govt over malnutrition deaths

NHRC India has taken suo-motu cognizance of a report that a family residing in Ojhaganj village of Basti district in Uttar Pradesh has lost four of its members during the last six years due to malnutrition. Reportedly, not being able to bear the extreme physical and mental suffering, the head of the family, has requested the authorities to allow him to end his life as he is not being given work by anyone for three months and has no source of income to procure bread and butter for him and lone daughter, who is also struggling to survive.



UN chief issues 7-point 'call to action' on human rights

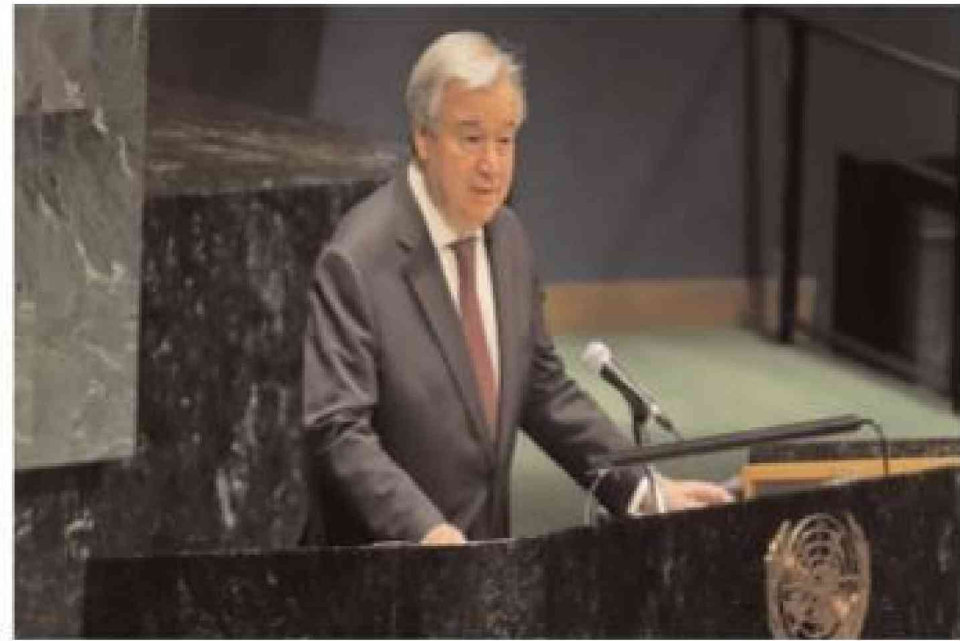
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GENEVA, 24 FEBRUARY

The head of the United Nations issued a "call to action" on Monday to countries, businesses and all people to help renew and revive human rights across the globe, laying out a seven-point plan amid concerns about climate change, conflict and repression.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres made the appeal at the start of the latest Human Rights Council session in Geneva, known as the council's "high-level segment" because it hosts a parade of dignitaries, including Libya's prime minister and foreign ministers from countries like Germany, Saudi Arabia and South Korea at the start of the four-week session.

"I have come to the Human Rights Council, the fulcrum



for international dialogue and cooperation to advance all human rights, to launch a Call to Action," Guterres said, speaking in broad terms and avoiding any reference to individual countries' rights records.

The UN chief said he wanted to speak out now because "human rights are under assault."

His seven-point plan involves linking human rights to issues like sustainable development, crisis prevention, gender equality, the development of the digital age, and freedom of expression and civil society, among other things.

"Success must be measured by the yardstick of meaningful change in people's

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lives," he said.

"As a United Nations family, a culture of human rights must permeate all we do."

In a veiled allusion to China's Communist government, which has made economic and social development a key pillar of its approach to human rights, Guterres said: "It would be a mistake to diminish economic, social and cultural rights.

"But it would be equally

misguided to think that those rights are sufficient to answer people's yearning for freedom," he said.

Guterres also spoke out against rising racism, white supremacy and extremism, and lamented violence against women and girls as the world's most pervasive human rights abuse."

In an allusion to what are popularly known as "killer robots," he reiterated his stance that machines should never be given lethal capacity outside human judgment or control. "People across the world want to know we are on their side," Guterres said. "Whether robbed of their dignity by war, repression or poverty, or simply dreaming of a better future, they rely on their irreducible rights and they look to us to help uphold them."

"Human rights civil, cultural, economic, political

and social are both the goal and the path," he said.

Kenneth Roth, executive director of Human Rights Watch, welcomed Guterres' message but urged him to be more direct in his statements.

"By providing a strong voice advocating for victims and condemning abusers, the Secretary-General can stand tall against governments committing serious rights violations whether it's the mass arbitrary detention of Uyghurs in China, atrocities committed against Myanmar's Rohingyas, indiscriminate Russian-Syrian bombing of civilians in Idlib, or the forced separation of children from their parents at the US border," Roth said.

"But this initiative will succeed only if the Secretary-General provides robust and regular public commentary, and does not shy away from naming abusers."