### NHRC staffer dies of corona, 17 more test +ve till date

New Delhi, June 26: An employee of the NHRC has died of Covid-19 while 17 others have been infected by the novel coronavirus till date, sources said on Friday.

The deceased was employed as a multitasking staffer at the National Human Rights Commission, they said.

Besides the fatality, the first Covid death of any NHRC employee, 17 other staffers, including some senior officials, have tested positive for it till date, sources said.

These cases were reported between June 12 and June 24, and some family members of a few employees have also contracted the infection, they said.

A team of Indian Council of Medical Research on Friday visited the National Human Rights Commission office, located on the sixstoreyed Manavadhikar Bhawan in INA area in south Delhi, sources said.

Earlier, sanitisation activity was carried out after many cases were reported from its office.

"From Wednesday-Friday last week, floor nos. 5 and 6 were closed for sanitisation. Maximum cases were reported from floor no. 5," one of the sources said.

Recently, a team of National Human Rights Commission, led by its member, had visited the LNJP Hospital, a dedicated Covid facility under the Delhi government, for on-spot inspection. — PTI

## मानवाधिकार आयोग के एक कर्मी की मौत, 17 संक्रमित

नर्ड दिल्ली। राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग के एक कर्मचारी की शुक्रवार को कोरोना से मौत हो गई, जबकि 17 कर्मी अब भी पॉजिटिव हैं जिनमें कुछ वरिष्ठ अधिकारी शामिल हैं। यह आयोग में कोरोना से मौत का पहला मामला है। मानवाधिकार आयोग में 12-24 जून के बीच संक्रमित मिले थे। इनमें कुछ के परिवार वाले भी संक्रमित हुए हैं। आईसीएमआर की टीम ने शुक्रवार को आयोग के दफ्तर का दौरा किया। इससे पहले पूरे भवन को कई बार सैनिटाइज भी किया जा चुका है। पिछले हफ्ते बुधवार और शुक्रवार को पांचवीं और छठी मंजिल को सैनिटाइज किया गया था। एजेंसी

#### पत्रकार की हत्या में उप्र सरकार व डीजीपी को नोटिस

नई दिल्ली, 26 जून (भाषा)।

राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग ने रेत माफिया पर कथित तौर पर खबर छापने वाले एक पत्रकार की उत्तर प्रदेश के उन्नाव जिले में हुई हत्या के सिलसिले में राज्य सरकार और राज्य के पुलिस महानिदेशक को नोटिस जारी किए हैं। एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने यह जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया कि खबरों के मुताबिक पत्रकार शुभम त्रिपाठी कानपुर से प्रकाशित होने वाले हिंदी दैनिक 'कंपू मेल' के लिए काम करते थे।

अधिकारी ने बताया कि राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) ने पत्रकार की हत्या पर मीडिया में आई खबरों का संज्ञान लिया और उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य सचिव तथा पुलिस महानिदेशक (डीजीपी) को नोटिस जारी किए हैं। हत्या की यह घटना पिछले हफ्ते घटी थी।

आयोग ने एक बयान जारी कर कहा, 'सरकार की लोकतांत्रिक प्रणाली में, मीडिया को चौथा स्तम्भ माना जाता है, जिसे इस तरह से निर्मम तरीके से असमाजिक तत्वों का शिकार नहीं बनने दिया जा सकता।' आयोग के बयान में कहा गया है कि त्रिपाठी जिले में अवैध रेत खनन के बारे में रिपोर्टिंग कर रहे थे और उनकी जान को खतरा था। कथित तौर पर उनके विरोधियों ने भी जिलाधिकारी के समक्ष उनके खिलाफ एक शिकायत दर्ज कराई थी।

### NHRC के कर्मी की मौत, 17 संक्रमित

■पीटीआई, नई दिल्लीः राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) के एक कर्मचारी की कोविड-19 से मौत हो गई है, जबिक अभी तक 17 अन्य कर्मचारी इससे संक्रमित पाए गए हैं। सूत्रों ने बताया कि कोविड-19 से जान गंवाने वाला कर्मचारी एनएचआरसी में मल्टी टास्किंग कर्मचारी था। यह एनएचआरसी के किसी कर्मचारी की कोविड-19 से मौत होने का पहला मामला है। इसके अलावा अभी तक इसके 17 कर्मचारी कोरोना संक्रमित पाए गए हैं जिसमें कुछ विरुट अधिकारी भी शामिल हैं।

# Take action against govt officials: Kani to NHRC

DC CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI, JUNE 26

DMK MP representing Thoothukudi constituency Kanimozhi Karunanidhi has urged the National Human Rights Commission to take necessary action against 'government officials' responsible for the custodial death of Jayaraj and his son Bennix in Sathankulam under the Protection of Human Rights Act.

In her complaint, Kanimozhi narrated the events leading to the death of the two men, aged 58 and 31, who had been running a woodwork shop and a mobile shop in Sathankulam, which falls under the Thoothukudi Lok Sabha constituency.

She said police had picked up Jayaraj on June 19 for allegedly keeping the shop open in the evening in violation of lockdown restrictions. When his son Bennix went to the police station, he was also taken into custody and both of them were detained overnight for investigation.

"It is alleged that the while the police were assaulting Jayaraj and Bennix in the guise of investigation, the police officers had inserted a baton into the anus of Bennix that had triggered uncontrolled bleeding and further the police officers had beaten. Jayaraj and had kicked him on his chest multiple times with their shoes," Kanimozhi said.

When the two were taken to the doctor on June 20, they were bleeding in their rectums. When the doctor refused to give a fitness certificate on the ground that their blood pressure was high, Sathankulam inspector Srithar 'had forced and coerced the doctor' to issue the fitness certificates by disregarding the health condition, ailments and injuries of Jayaraj and Bennix.

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When the police officers took them to the judicial magistrate's house, Jayaraj and Bennix were placed at least 50 meters away from the magistrate with the policemen throwing a ring around them, the complaint said.

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Then, the two were taken to the Kovilpatti sub jail that was around 100 km away from Sathankulam village. At the jail both developed health complications and died in the government



Thoothukudi MP Kanimozhi meets family members of Jayaraj and Bennix on Friday.

#### एनएचआरसी ने पत्रकार की हत्या पर मांगा जवाब

लखनऊ :राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) ने उन्नाव में पत्रकार शुभम त्रिपाठी हत्याकांड का संज्ञान लेकर मुख्य सचिव व डीजीपी से घटना की रिपोर्ट तलब की है। एनएचआरसी ने मुख्य सचिव व डीजीपी को नोटिस जारी कर घटना की सीबीआइडी जांच कराने व पत्रकार के परिवारीजन व गवाहों की सुरक्षा के पुख्ता बंदोबस्त कराने का निर्देश भी दिया है। एनएचआरसी ने 19 जून को उन्नाव में हुई पत्रकार की हत्या का संज्ञान लिया है। राब्यू

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#### NHRC seeks report from UP govt over scribe's murder

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Seeking a report from the Uttar Pradesh government about the killing of a journalist by sand mafia in Unnao, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Friday said it was the duty of the state to provide adequate safety and security to media persons who take "great risks" to highlight illegal activities.

The Press Council of India also took suo motu congnizance of the murder case and issued anotice to the UP chief secretary seeking a report.

The NHRC has given the chief secretary and director general of police four weeks time to file the report on the murder of journalist Shubham Tripathy of Hindi newspaper Kampu Mail, on June 20. He had written about illegals and mining in the district and had apprehended threat to his life from them.

It also directed the state government to order an impartial enquiry into the matter by an independent agency, preferably the state crime branch CID and to ensure safety of the victim's family and the witnesses in the matter.

The action came as the NHRC took suo motu cognizance of a media report about the murder, which also mentioned that in many cases the media persons have been targeted by the anti-social elements and in most of the cases no action against the culprits has been taken by the police authorities.

# NHRC notice to UP government over scribe's murder

LUCKNOW: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Friday issued notice to the Uttar Pradesh government over killing of a journalist by alleged sand mafia in Unnao.

In a press statement on Friday, the spokesperson of NHRC said the commission had taken suo motu cognizance of a media report that a journalist was allegedly killed by the sand mafia in Unnao district on June 19.

The victim Shubham Tripathy was working as a correspondent with a Hindi daily. He had been reporting about illegal sand mining in the district and had apprehended threat to his life from them. Reportedly, his opponents had also lodged a complaint against him with DM.

The commission has issued a notice to the UP government through its chief secretary and DGP, calling for a detailed report in the matter.

The state government has also been directed to get an impartial enquiry into the matter by an independent agency, preferably the state CB CID and to ensure safety of the family of the victim and the witnesses. The call details and other forensic evidences gathered during inquiry are to be preserved as commission might call them during consideration of the case.

The response is expected within 4 weeks, the spokesperson said.

# Kanimozhi seeks NHRC inquiry

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI

Thoothukudi DMK MP Kanimozhi has written to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) seeking an inquiry against police personnel and others responsible for the alleged custodial deaths of a father and son, Jayaraj and Benicks, from Sattankulam.

"It is alleged that the police assaulted Mr. Jayaraj and Mr. Benicks in the guise of investigation," she said in her letter.

Ms. Kanimozhi said it was alleged that when the police took them to the doctor to obtain fitness certificates, he actually refused.

But the inspector of the Sattankulam police station coerced the doctor to provide the fitness certificates by disregarding their health conditions. Even when the two were taken to the Judicial Magistrate's house for being produced, "it is alleged that they were positioned at least 50 metres away from the Magistrate and were surrounded by policemen when they were taken into judicial custody," Ms. Kanimozhi said.

"As such there is overwhelming direct and corroborative evidence that the police officials, the Magistrate who ordered the remand, the medical officials who should have checked the health and physical fitness of Mr. Jayaraj and Mr. Benicks have collectively failed in discharging their duties," the MP said.

She added that from mere perusal of the facts and circumstances, it can be seen that the police disregarded even the basic human rights including the Right to life and dignity as enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution.

She said the police violated the guidelines for arrest as laid down by the Supreme Court of India, and it was also in violation of the Police Standing Order issued by the State of Tamil Nadu.

Ms. Kanimozhi alleged that there have been 15 incidents of custodial deaths in the State but not a single chargesheet has been filed against officials responsible for it.

"Therefore, the NHRC may also take this into consideration and issue necessary directions in this regard so that no further lives are lost under police custody and stringent action is taken against all such officials who have abetted in gross human rights violations," Ms. Kanimozhi said.

# Kanimozhi seeks NHRC inquiry

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## NHRC seeks probe into **Unnao scribe murder case**

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