

RLD urges NHRC to probe cane charge on Jayant Chaudhary

LUCKNOW: The Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) has urged the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to conduct an inquiry into the alleged police cane charge on party leader and ex-MP Jayant Chaudhary, when he went to meet family members of the Hathras victim on October 4. In a letter to the NHRC chairman on Tuesday, RLD general secretary Mairajuddin Ahmed said that when Jayant Chaudhary was talking to mediapersons in a cordoned off area, police resorted to a brutal cane charge against him "without provocation".

NHRC advisory on informal workers' rights

A 'committee of experts on impact of Covid-19 pandemic on human rights and future response' set up by NHRC has issued detailed advisories to states and UT administrations on the rights of informal workers and sought action taken reports from them showing compliance in each area, reports **Swati Mathur**. The advisory said that in a survey of more than 11,500 informal workers conducted by Action Aid Association, more than 78% respondents reported a loss of livelihood and a major reduction in intensity of work. In this context, the committee has recommended the setting up of 'Worker Facilitation Centres' at district levels and cities to register and skill-map workers, increase guaranteed employment under MGNREGS to 200 days per individual worker per year, provide additional Covid-19 allowance of 10% to cover costs of sanitation, water and travel to wages under MGNREGA, and to kick-start an urban employment guarantee scheme. **TNN**

PROTECTING RIGHTS OF PRISONERS, OTHERS

COVID-19: NHRC sends advisories to ministries, state governments

NEW DELHI: In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Human Rights Commission has issued advisories to various ministries and states stressing on the need for protection of rights of prisoners, police personnel and informal workers.

The NHRC, in a statement issued on Tuesday, said it is "deeply concerned" about the rights of the vulnerable and marginalised sections of the society affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant lockdowns.

It said it had constituted a 'Committee of Experts on Impact of COVID-19 Pan-



demic on Human Rights and Future Response' which included representatives from civil society organisations, independent domain experts, and concerned ministries and departments.

The committee was tasked with assessing the impact of the pandemic on the realisation of the rights of the peo-

ple, especially the marginalised and vulnerable sections of the population which have been "disproportionately impacted", it said.

After due consideration of the impact assessment and recommendations made by the committee, the commission has issued the advisories on the protection of the rights of prisoners, police personnel and informal workers, the statement said. The NHRC said it has also requested the concerned ministries, states and UTs to implement the recommendations made in the advisories and that action taken report be sent to it. MPOST

NHRC advisory on rights of informal workers

A committee of experts on impact of Covid-19 pandemic on human rights, set up by the NHRC, has issued a 13-page advisory to states and UT administrations on the rights of informal workers and sought action taken reports from them showing compliance in each area, reports **Swati Mathur**. It has recommended setting up of 'Worker Facilitation Centres' at district levels and cities to register and skill-map workers.

Full report on www.toi.in

NHRC issues advisory on rights of informal workers

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New Delhi: A 'committee of experts on impact of Covid-19 pandemic on human rights and future response' set up by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued detailed advisories to states and UT administrations on the rights of informal workers and sought action taken reports from them showing compliance in each area.

This is the seventh advisory issued by the rights panel so far, each aimed at different groups like prisoners and police personnel, children, persons with disabilities, and businesses hit during Covid-19. The commission's 13-page advisory on informal workers said that in a survey of more than 11,500 informal workers conducted by Action Aid Association, more than 78% respondents reported a loss of livelihood and a major reduction in intensity of work.

"Before the lockdown, the vast majority worked above 40 hours a week and after the

lockdown, over two-thirds of the respondents reported working zero hours a week. Over 48% respondents did not receive any wages after the lockdown and 17% received partial wages. Close to 55% of these respondents already had outstanding debts before the lockdown that further increased during the lockdown," the advisory said.

In this context, the committee has recommended the setting up of 'Worker Facilitation Centres' at district levels and cities to register and skill-map workers, increase guaranteed employment under MGNREGS to 200 days per individual worker per year, provide additional Covid-19 allowance of 10% to cover costs of sanitation, water and travel to wages under MGNREGA, and to kick-start an urban employment guarantee scheme. The advisory also recommends measures for enhancing employment and upholding workers' rights, protecting them from violence, countering discrimination and exclusion, and protecting rights of vulnerable sections.

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NHRC's advisory to states on right of informal labour

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