

MP govt, police get NHRC notice on 'lock-up rape'

New Delhi: The National Human Rights Commission on Monday issued notices to Madhya Pradesh chief secretary, DGP and DG Prisons after taking suo motu cognisance of allegations by a 20-year-old woman that she was gangraped by five cops while in lock-up.

Referring to news reports of a woman being raped by five police personnel in Rewa, the commission said the matter should be probed by a senior officer not below the rank of the DIG. "Public servants from law enforcement agencies who are supposed to safeguard citizens especially women and people from vulnerable classes of the society have allegedly committed the heinous crime against a woman in their custody," it said. **TNN**

NHRC to states, UTs: Protect rights of LGBTQI community

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Monday issued a human-rights advisory and asked all states and UTs to ensure the protection of the rights of the LGBTQI community in the context of COVID-19 pandemic.

The NHRC after viewing the unprecedented situation across the country and being deeply concerned about the rights of the vulnerable and marginalised sections of the society affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant lockdowns constituted a 'Committee of Experts on Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on Human Rights and Future Response'.

The Committee included representatives from the civil society organizations, independent domain experts, and the representatives from the concerned ministries, departments. "After due consideration of the impact assessment and recommendations made by the Committee of Experts, the Commission has now issued the 'Human Rights Advisory for Protection of the Rights of LGBTQI community in the context of COVID-19 pandemic,'" NHRC said.

NHRC seeks reply on health of SIMI prisoners

OUR STAFF REPORTER
BHOPAL

The National Human Rights Commission took suo motu cognizance of health status of SIMI prisoners and issued notice to the state government on Monday to present its medical treatment records within four weeks before the Commission.

The Commission issued notice to chief secretary and IGP (prisons) for violation of prisoners' rights and inhuman behaviour in the state.

Six members of banned students' Islamic Movement of India (SIMI) had begun a hunger strike inside central jail here a week back.

They have been shifted to jail hospital. The prisoners who were found guilty of sedition, collecting arms

Issued notice to chief secretary and IGP (prisons) for prisoners' rights violation and inhuman behaviour

and waging war against the government have been sentenced for life imprisonment in 2017 and 2018 by different courts including the NIA and CBI special courts.

The prisoners have the right to Food and Dignity, which is the basic human right that the state government cannot deny to inmates who are in its lawful custody.

A section of the press had revealed that all of them demanded better food, exemption from

regular frisking and freedom from high security block.

The jail superintendent, as mentioned in the news report, has stated SIMI prisoners are not allowed to come out of special cell as they raise anti-national slogans and disrespect Constitution. This leads to tension amongst other inmates of the jail.

The Commission mentioned that amid spread of Covid-19 there had been significant increase in the case of coronavirus among inmates lodged in the jails in the country.

It is necessary that the prisoners are provided proper food so that their immunity level remains satisfactory, which is necessary as per guidelines issued by WHO and ICMR.

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NHRC advises Centre to protect LGBT rights

New Delhi: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has advised the Centre and states to uplift protect the rights of members of the LGBTQI+ community who have been severely impacted by the Covid-19. The apex rights body has also constituted a committee of experts for the same.