

## **NHRC's new seminar hall inaugurated by its housekeeping staff, COVID-19 warriors**

<https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/nhrca-new-seminar-hall-inaugurated-by-its-housekeeping-staff-covid-19-warriors20211118101002>

A new seminar hall of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was on Wednesday inaugurated by one of its women housekeeping staff and three COVID-19 warriors, with an aim to recognize their contribution to the fight against coronavirus and to promote equality and dignity in the Commission. "As a gesture to honour the employees of the Commission, who played an active role during COVID-19 pandemic and also to promote equality and dignity in the Commission, the Seminar Hall was inaugurated on November 16, 2021, by Vimla, a contractual housekeeping staff member and three COVID warriors of the Commission, Mathew Kurien, RN Tyagi and Baldev Prasad in the presence of NHRC chairperson, Justice Arun Mishra (Retd)," said NHRC officials. The employees hailed the decision of the Chairperson for giving them the honour of inaugurating the seminar hall. Vimla, a contractual housekeeping staff, said that she never expected that she would share the dais with the chairperson and members. She expressed happiness to get this honour representing her team of contractual housekeeping staff responsible for keeping the Manav Adhikar Bhawan premises cleaned. Mathew, an Assistant, said he felt he was contributing his bit as a human being performing the last rites of his colleague, who passed away due to COVID infections. "This honour in recognition of his humble contribution for the cause of humanity will remain a treasured memory in my life," said Mathew. Justice Mishra said the decision was taken to emphasize that human rights are for all and do not vary according to the positions of the people. "Their rights to dignity and equality also need to be recognized, who may not be holding very important positions in the scheme of things but contributing significantly for the sake of fellow human beings," said the NHRC chairperson. (ANI)

## **Cops fired on superior s order, did not commit any offence'**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/cops-fired-on-superiors-order-did-not-commit-any-offence/articleshow/87788347.cms>

The three cops who opened fire at Chattanpally during the alleged encounter were merely acting on the orders of their superior ACP V Surender, their advocate told the Supreme Court-appointed commission on Thursday. During arguments by advocate for the three handlers, the commission ascertained that unlike other police witnesses, the three never said that ACP ordered firing in the direction of the sound or claimed being threatened by NHRC during recording of statements. Appearing for SI Sk Lal Madhar, SI K Ravi and head constable Md Sirajuddin, who had fired during the alleged encounter on December 6, 2019, advocate Sk Mastan Vali told the commission: "As per IPC Sections 76 and 79, the acts of my clients do not amount to an offence. My clients were discharging public duty as per the orders of their superior officer." Mastan Vali said they were ordered to fire by the ACP after the accused continued to fire at them despite warnings shots in the air.

During arguments of advocate T Bala Mohan Reddy appearing for handlers D Janakiram, Balu Rathod and D Srikanth, the commission queried if his clients had also stated being threatened by the NHRC team when their statements were recorded after the alleged encounter. The advocate said that they had not mentioned about threats from NHRC because no question was asked about it. Then, with advocate Reddy's assistance the commission went through the deposition of ACP V Surender who had stated that NHRC team had threatened him and commented, "He himself said and we pursued it because it is a serious issue. But he did not lodge any complaint about it." Advocate Reddy then pointed to the commission that NHRC team member Arun Tyagi had voluntarily mentioned during his deposition that he drew the sketch of the encounter site, while NHRC officials had admitted examining ACP V Surender beyond midnight to record his statement, which was a violation of human rights. "The statements recorded by NHRC can't be given any importance," the advocate argued. The advocate for the three cops, Sk Mastan Vali, argued that his clients were discharging their duty as per orders and said they were ordered to fire after the accused had continued to fire at them despite warning shots in the air.

## **Age of accused wasn't ascertained: Counsel**

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/hyderabad/2021/nov/18/age-of-accused-wasnt-ascertained-counsel-2385033.html>

Advocate Vasudha Nagaraj while presenting her arguments before the Judicial Commission in the 'encounter' case on Wednesday stated that the police personnel involved in the incident and the investigating officer who disowned their statements recorded by the NHRC, while being examined by the commission, did so to protect themselves.

She was appearing for K Sajaya, an independent journalist, a petitioner in the PIL filed before the Telangana High Court in the case. "If the NHRC team did indeed threaten the police and record their statements, why didn't the police examine the NHRC team when they had deposed before the commission," she asked.

Nagaraj also contended that the ages of the accused were not ascertained at the time of the arrest. "As per the statement of their families, they were picked up around 3 am, but police evidence shows that they were arrested in the evening. SHO Shadnagar who effected the arrest, did not ascertain the age either with the accused or from their relatives."

Importantly, the Additional Judicial First Class Magistrate at Shadnagar, who granted police custody of the accused did not ascertain the ages. Further, ACP Shadnagar, the IO in the case, looked at them and confirmed that they were adults and didn't ascertain the ages, thinking, "there was no issue about their age, based on their physical features and experience," Nagaraj contended.

## **Gupkar Alliance, valley parties reject magisterial enquiry in 'civilian killings'**

<https://www.thestatesman.com/india/gupkar-alliance-valley-parties-reject-magisterial-enquiry-civilian-killings-1503025531.html>

Following widespread criticism in Kashmir on the issue of “civilian killings” in the recent Hyderpora encounter, Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday ordered a time-bound magisterial enquiry into the incident. However, the Farooq Abdullah led the People’s Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), and other valley-based political parties have rejected this and have demanded a judicial enquiry to bring out the truth.

Although the LG said there will be no injustice with the people, the PDP also rejected the magisterial probe which it described as an “eyewash” and demanded independent judicial enquiry or by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).

PAGD spokesman and CPI(M) leader Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami, while briefing media persons about the PAGD meeting on the issue, said it has been decided to seek the intervention of the President of India whom Dr. Farooq Abdullah will write a letter seeking a judicial probe into the “civilian killings”.

Peoples Conference President Sajad Gani Lone appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his personal intervention in ensuring that justice is delivered to the families of Altaf Bhat and Dr. Mudasir Gul killed in the Hyderpora encounter. He further stated that we can’t have a situation in a democracy where grieving is a luxury, where the freedom to touch and feel the lifeless body of a husband or a father becomes a distant dream.

National Conference leader and former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah staged a sit-in protest in Srinagar in support of the demand of kin of the two “civilians” killed during the encounter for returning their bodies for proper burial. He called off the protest after the family member of the slain informed him that the authorities have assured the return of bodies, Omar tweeted.

It is worth mentioning that the police had claimed that the two, who were among the four killed terrorists, were also terror associates, and digital evidence confirming this was available.

Announcing the enquiry, the Lt Governor tweeted; “A magisterial inquiry by an officer of ADM rank has been ordered in Hyderpora encounter. Govt will take suitable action as soon as the report is submitted in a time-bound manner. JK admin reiterates the commitment of protecting lives of innocent civilians & it will ensure there is no injustice”.

PDP’s Political Affairs Committee member Anil Sethi said the magistrate is far too below in bureaucratic hierarchy, susceptible to influence. The inquiry should be either by NHRC or a sitting judge of the High Court.

Mehbooba Mufti, who also wanted to join the protest with relatives of the killed persons, was put under house arrest. A mobile bunker vehicle of the police blocked the gate of her residence and she posted pictures on Twitter showing the gate also locked. "The pattern of using innocent civilians as human shields & then denying their families the right to a decent burial shows that the GOI (Government of India) has plumbed new depths of inhumanity", she tweeted.

"Their narrative right from the start was based on lies to escape accountability. They don't want to be held accountable for their actions & that's why they are muzzling voices that speak up against such injustice & atrocities", she added.

## Query on lack of cross-exam

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/hyderabad/2021/nov/18/query-on-lack-of-cross-exam-2385034.html>

Praveen Chillara, advocate appearing for Konda Narasimha Reddy, Kore Venkateswarlu and S Aravind Goud, who were among the police party that accompanied the accused to Chatanpally of Shadnagar for recovering the articles of the victim, presented his arguments before the judicial commission.

He spoke on the aspects of preparations for police custody, the events at the safe house, arrival at Chatanpally, exchange of fire, injuries and treatment of injured policemen. He said that the Judicial Magistrate of Shadnagar who recorded the statements of Kore Venkateswarlu and S Aravind Goud, while they were being treated at hospital, did not consider the physical and mental condition of the injured police personnel. In response, the commission asked him why he did not cross-examine the Magistrate. "You were given an opportunity, but you did not examine the Magistrate and the NHRC team."

When the commission also asked if there was any mention in the affidavits that the driver of the bus transporting the accused and the police party drove to Chatanpally, as directed by the accused, Praveen said there was no mention.

He also stated that the articles were recovered at around 5.30 pm by the IO. The commission then pointed out that the articles were recovered only after 12 hours and asked if the place was guarded and also if the affidavit of the IO says that the place was guarded. Praveen replied the entire area was guarded. He however admitted there is no mention in any of the affidavits that the place where the articles were hidden, was guarded throughout the day for 12 hours.

## **Custodial Death Issue: 'सत्ता में आने पर हिरासत में हुई तमाम मौत की कराएंगे सीबीआई जांच', आप ने यूपी चुनाव को लेकर खेला बड़ा दांव**

<https://navbharattimes.indiatimes.com/elections/assembly-elections/uttar-pradesh/up-election-news/aap-to-get-cbi-probe-into-custodial-death-if-voted-to-power/articleshow/87770819.cms>

उत्तर प्रदेश के चुनावी माहौल में लोगों के सामने तमाम दल बड़े-बड़े वादे कर रहे हैं। छात्रों को मोबाइल-लैपटॉप से लेकर बेहतर कानून व्यवस्था तक के दावे किए जा रहे हैं। कई दल आरक्षण के मुद्दों को उठाकर जाति विशेष के लिए आरक्षण की व्यवस्था में सुधार के दावे कर रहे हैं। वहीं, वोट बैंक को मजबूत करने के लिए लामबंदी भी खूब चल रही है। इस सबके बीच एक वादा आम आदमी पार्टी की ओर से किया गया है, जिस पर अभी चर्चा शुरू हो गई है।

यूपी विधानसभा चुनाव के मैदान में उतरने की घोषणा कर चुकी आम आदमी पार्टी ने घोषणा की है कि अगर उनकी पार्टी प्रदेश में सत्ता में आई तो न्यायिक हिरासत में हुई तमाम मौत की जांच सीबीआई से कराई जाएगी। आप अध्यक्ष व दिल्ली के मुख्यमंत्री लखनऊ से बेरोजगारी समस्या पर अपना पक्ष रखने की बात कर चुके हैं। आप की इस घोषणा के बाद यूपी में पुलिस व न्यायिक हिरासत में हुई मौत का मामला एक बार फिर गरमाने के आसार हैं।

आप ने की है सत्ता में आने पर हिरासत में मौत मामले की सीबीआई जांच की घोषणा

कासगंज में पुलिस हिरासत में मौत के बाद गरम है माहौल  
कासगंज में पुलिस हिरासत में मौत के मामले को लेकर माहौल गरमाया हुआ है। आरोप लग रहा है कि पुलिस हिरासत में कथित रूप से पिटाई के कारण युवक की मौत हुई। वहीं, पुलिस की ओर से दावा किया गया है कि युवक अल्ट्राफ ने अपनी जैकेट के हुक में लगी डोरी से बाथरूम के नल से फांसी लगा दी। इससे उसकी मौत हुई। मामला सामने आने के बाद से विवाद बढ़ा हुआ है। विपक्षी दलों ने इसे राजनीतिक मुद्दा बना लिया है। वहीं, आप ने तमाम ऐसे मामलों की जांच सीबीआई से कराने की बात करके हिरासत में मौत के मामलों को गरमा दिया है।

वोट बैंक को अपने पक्ष में करने की है कोशिश

यूपी चुनाव में तमाम राजनीतिक दल अपने-अपने वोट बैंक को मजबूत कर रहे हैं। कोई भी दल अपने वोट बैंक में सेंधमारी नहीं होने दे रहा है। आम आदमी पार्टी इस बार अपने लिए उस वोट बैंक में जगह तलाश रहा है। इसलिए, उन्होंने एक नए मुद्दे के जरिए एक वर्ग विशेष को साधने की कोशिश की है। हिरासत में मौत का मामला अभी तक चुनावी मैदान में मुद्दा बनता दिख नहीं रहा। किसी भी विपक्षी दल ने इसे नहीं उठाया तो आप ने लपका है और इसके जरिए नाराज तबके को साधने की कोशिश की जा रही है।

हिरासत में मौत के मामलों में प्रदेश रहा है आगे

हिरासत में मौत के मामले में लोकसभा में चर्चा के दौरान केंद्र सरकार ने जो आंकड़ा पेश किया, उसके मुताबिक इस मामले में प्रदेश पहले स्थान पर है। केंद्रीय गृह राज्य मंत्री नित्यानंद राय की

ओर से 27 जुलाई को राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग का आंकड़ा पेश किया, जिसके मुताबिक पिछले तीन साल में प्रदेश में 1318 लोगों की पुलिस और न्यायिक हिरासत में मौत हुई है।

एनएचआरसी के आंकड़ों पर गौर करें तो वर्ष 2018-19 में उत्तर प्रदेश में पुलिस हिरासत में 12 व न्यायिक हिरासत में 452, वर्ष 2019-20 में पुलिस हिरासत में तीन व न्यायिक हिरासत में 400 और वर्ष 2020-21 पुलिस हिरासत में 8 व न्यायिक हिरासत में 443 लोगों की मौत हो गई। उत्तर प्रदेश में हिरासत में हुई मौत का मामला पूरे देश के मामले का करीब 23 फीसदी है। देश भर में हिरासत में लिए गए 5569 लोगों की मौत पिछले तीन साल में हुई है।

मई में भी गरमाया था मामला

यूपी में इस साल मई में भी हिरासत में मौत का मामला गरमाया था। 21 मई को उन्नाव के बांगरमऊ कस्बे में 18 साल के युवक की पुलिस हिरासत में मौत हो गई। कोरोना कर्फ्यू का पालन कराने गई पुलिस ने फैजल नाम के युवक को सब्जी का ठेला लगाने के जुर्म में हिरासत में लिया। हिरासत में ही फैजल की स्थिति खराब हुई और फिर उसकी मौत हो गई। इस मामले में दो सिपाहियों व एक होमगार्ड पर मामला दर्ज हुआ था।

वहीं, 9 नवंबर को कासगंज में हिरासत में लिए गए युवक की हिरासत में मौत के मामले में हंगामा मचा हुआ है। इस मामले में लापरवाही बरतने के आरोपी पांच पुलिसकर्मियों को निलंबित कर दिया गया। इस मामले में युवक के परिजनों ने पुलिस पर हमला बोला है।



## मानवाधिकार आयोग ने लिया स्वतः संज्ञान

कानपुर : पुलिस हिरासत में छूटने के बाद दम तोड़ने वाले जितेंद्र के मामले में उत्तर प्रदेश मानवाधिकार आयोग से मीडिया रिपोर्ट के आधार पर स्वतः संज्ञान लिया है। आयोग के अध्यक्ष न्यायमूर्ति बालकृष्ण नारायण ने इस संबंध में पुलिस आयुक्त को नोटिस जारी किया है। कहा गया है कि पूरे प्रकरण में किसी क्षेत्राधिकारी स्तर के अधिकारी से जांच कराकर 24 घंटे के अंदर जांच रिपोर्ट आयोग को भेजें। रिपोर्ट के आधार पर आयोग आगे की कार्रवाई करेगा।