

NHRC recorded incorrect entries in logbook, says Ex-Shadnagar ACP

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/hyderabad/2021/oct/22/nhrc-recorded-incorrect-entries-in-logbook-says-ex-shadnagaracp-2374347.html>

Former Shadnagar ACP V Surender, while deposing before the three-member judicial commission probing the death of the four accused in the rape and murder case of a veterinarian at Shadnagar in 2019, said entries recorded by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in a 'log book' were incorrect.

When the commission questioned Surender about the logbook, which was submitted to the commission by the Additional Director General (ADG), Telangana Police, Surender said, "It might have been recorded by the NHRC officials and some entries in it stating that he met the Cyberabad commissioner at his residence and that the Commissioner granted permission, are incorrect."

When asked how entries related to the 'Commissioner' were incorrect, he said he did not know how NHRC officials wrote them. "I did not give this document to anyone, but I do not know how this log reached the ADG. To my knowledge, the log was typed by the NHRC team," he said.

Surender said that the NHRC team had inquired about his daywise movements based on his call data records from November 29 to December 6 of 2019.

When asked if the ADG had submitted documents typed by the NHRC, Surender said he did not know, though it had his signature on it. "My statement was recorded (by NHRC) late in the night till 2 or 3 am. I was not in a position to talk. A small argument also occurred between me and NHRC members. They insisted that I should sign that document, therefore I affixed my signature."

Request for recording denied

The commission denied a request by counsels to the police party, for in-camera proceedings.

NHRC staff threatened me, signed statement without reading it: ACP

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/nhrc-staff-threatened-me-signed-statement-without-reading-it-acp/articleshow/87214224.cms>

On the second day of his deposition before the SC-appointed panel inquiring into the alleged encounter of four accused in Disha rape and murder, ACP V Surender claimed that NHRC team threatened him while recording his statement and he signed without reading it. The incident happened in the presence of NHRC DIG Manzil Saini and he had reported it to Shamshabad DCP, the ACP said. Surender, then ACP of Shadnagar and investigating officer (IO) of Disha rape and murder case, had taken the four accused to agricultural fields in Chattanpally for recovery of articles on December 6, 2019, when the alleged encounter happened. While admitting that his statement running into 15 pages was signed by him, the ACP said he was not sure what finally went in it as there was an argument with NHRC officials over contradiction between what he had stated and what they had recorded.

“It was late in the night. They had also threatened that if they write a report, I will be suspended. DIG madam was also present. My mental state was not well. It was late hours. Because of their threatening, I could not do anything and I signed,” the ACP, who has 28 years in the service, told the commission. The incident was reported to Shamshabad DCP N Prakash Reddy who “simply listened”, the ACP said, adding that he decided not to pursue it further.

Regarding the confessional statements of the four accused, ACP Surender stated that it was recorded at the safe house by panch witnesses with the help of a scribe on the intervening night of December 5-6, 2019. But the commission’s advocate questioned the ACP’s claims by pointing at his case diary, his affidavit before the commission and also his statement recorded by the IO of the alleged encounter case, J Surender Reddy, where it was mentioned that the confessions were recorded by him.

The ACP said that he did not make any such statement before J Surender Reddy and also claimed that there was no mistake in the case diary either. He said that the mistake occurred in the affidavit due to gap between his instructions and preparation of document by the advocate.

NHRC member Dnyaneshwar Mulay leads a summit to inculcate 'positivity' among Indians

<https://www.timesnownews.com/videos/times-now/india/nhrc-member-dnyaneshwar-mulay-leads-a-summit-to-inculcate-positivity-among-indians/112455>

In what can be one of the most unique initiative, NHRC Member and former IFS officer Dnyaneshwar Mulay has got together a host of union ministers, member of parliaments and organisations to lead a summit on “positivity”. Speaking exclusively with Times Now, Dr Mulay said the summit is aimed at creating a society, based on positivity, creativity and compassion. In the post pandemic era, people are looking for that one shining light or vision that can motivate them go further, we are trying to do that only, he said. When several achieves, ministers and public figures share their stories, people do find a motivation, he added. Watch this exclusive interaction with Dr Mulay.

Disha encounter probe: ACP Surender grilled on his movement, case diary

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/disha-encounter-probe-ACP-surender-grilled-on-his-movement-case-diary/articleshow/87200363.cms>

Assistant commissioner of police (ACP) V Surender, who is the investigating officer (IO) in the Disha gang-rape and murder case, deposed before the SC-appointed inquiry commission and faced some tough questions on his (movement) log and remand case diary on Thursday. The alleged encounter killing at Chattanpally took place on December 6, 2019, when the four accused were taken there by the ACP for scene reconstruction and recover items belonging to Disha. Drawing the attention of the ACP to the log (the officer's movement record) submitted to the commission by the additional director-general (ADG) of police, Telangana, commission's advocate K Parameshwar's asked him if the log was maintained by him. ACP Surender said that though the signature on the document was his, he was not aware how the document reached the ADG as there was a covering letter from him.

The ACP stated that as per his knowledge the log was typed by an NHRC Team after he furnished details of his day-wise movements between November 28, 2019 and December 6, 2019 and some entries in that document, including the one stating that he "...met CP sir at residence..." on the intervening night of December 3, 2019 and December 4, 2019, were incorrect. Explaining about his signature on the document, the ACP stated that the NHRC team recorded his statement till late in the night, 2 am or 3 am. "I was not in a position to talk. An argument occurred between me and NHRC officials. They insisted that I should sign and therefore I signed the document," he stated.

Shady replies of witness irk Disha encounter probe panel

<https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/in-other-news/221021/shady-replies-of-witness-irk-disha-encounter-probe-panel.html>

Witnesses continue to give evasive and unsatisfactory replies to the three-member panel formed by the Supreme Court to probe the alleged encounter killings of the four accused in the Disha rape and murder case.

The panel continued to cross-examine the then ACP of Shadnagar, V. Surender, who is currently posted in the CID, on Friday. The official and his team escorted the four accused men (A1 to A4) — Mohammed Arif, Jollu Shiva, Jollu Naveen and Ch. Chennakesavulu - to Ravi Guest House, the safe house they were kept until they were taken for the scene reconstruction at Chatanpally on December 6.

The panel asked the official, who was the investigation officer (IO), when they reached the guest house at about 1 am from Cherlapally prison, why did he not meet them for interrogation until 10 am on the next day. The officer replied that the assistant IO had made them fill the interrogation form at night. The panel frowned upon and said it took just about half an hour to fill that up and why was there such a long gap.

There were further discrepancies in statements and he told the panel that his statement given to the NHRC was incorrect. When the panel asked why he signed it, he said there was a dispute and argument and he ended up signing the report without reading it. His deposition on Friday ended with 179 questions and will further continue on Saturday.

Earlier on Thursday, the then ACP was questioned about the 'mistakes' in the remand case diary, which says that owner of the lorry, Patolla Srinivas Reddy, brought the four accused men to the police station. He told the panel that it was the SHO of Shadnagar, A. Sridhar Kumar, who arrested the four accused and due to a 'copy-paste' mistake, it appeared that lorry owner, P. Srinivasa Reddy, had brought the accused to the Shadnagar police station in the remand case diary.

In-Depth | One year later, where are the farmers' protests headed?

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/india/in-depth-one-year-later-where-are-the-farmers-protests-headed-7614871.html>

It started fairly innocuously, as a Delhi Chalo (Come to Delhi) call by farmers' unions campaigning against three farm laws enacted by the central government. Amid a stalemate in efforts towards a settlement, the ensuing sit-in at the borders of the capital has turned into the longest protest against the Narendra government since 2014.

November 25 will mark one year since farmers from Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh marched on the capital demanding a repeal of the three farm laws, which they feared would deprive them of bargaining power, leave them at the mercy of corporate powerhouses and could be a prelude to the scrapping of minimum support prices assured by the government for procuring their crops.

Braving the Delhi winter, police lathis and a deadly second wave of the coronavirus disease, the protestors have stayed put. They have pitched hundreds of tents and set up makeshift community kitchens and clinics along three key highways leading to Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, sending out a clear message that they were prepared for the long haul.

Two recent incidents of violence related to the farmers' protest have raised questions as to where the campaign is headed next. Moneycontrol explains those two incidents, what the future possibly holds and what the past year has meant for the protest, one of the longest ever waged by farmers in post-independent India.

Recent past

On October 3, eight people were killed in violence that took place in Uttar Pradesh's Lakhimpur Kheri. Of the eight, four were protesting farmers, who were allegedly knocked down by vehicles driven by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) workers travelling to welcome Uttar Pradesh deputy chief minister Keshav Prasad Maurya to an event organised in the area.

Of the other four, two were BJP workers, a driver of Union minister of state for home Ajay Kumar Mishra and a local journalist.

News18 has gathered that the Lakhimpuri protest had its roots in Ajay Mishra's remarks in Sampurnanagar area of Lakhimpur Kheri on September 25 when he reportedly said "farmers should reform themselves or they will be reformed."

His remarks were in response to black flags displayed by some farmers when he was en route to a function. Farmers had since been protesting against the minister, who said his statement was twisted by his critics.

Representative Image

Farmers protesting against the death of four farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh on October 3.

Things came to a head on October 3 when Maurya was to arrive in Lakhimpur Kheri to launch a number of government projects in the presence of Ajay Mishra. In the morning, farmers occupied a helipad where Maurya was to land, forcing the deputy CM to drive to the district.

Maurya and Ajay Mishra inaugurated the projects in Lakhimpur Kheri around noon before deciding to head to the Union minister's village, Banvirpur, to watch a wrestling competition. Before they could reach Banvirpur, around 3pm, at a place called Tikunia enroute, the violence took place. There are conflicting versions of what happened.

Farmers claim that Ajay Mishra's son Ashish Kumar was in a vehicle with armed men that deliberately ran over protestors in Tikunia when they were stopped. Farmers have lodged a complaint against the minister and his son.

The Union minister has described it as an "accident". BJP workers were driving to receive the deputy CM when they were attacked with stones by farmers, one of the drivers was injured and lost control of the vehicle that ran over the farmers, he claimed. The driver and three BJP workers in the vehicle were then pulled out by farmers and lynched, he said. The minister said his son was not present in the area at the time.

After multiple summons by the police, Ashish Kumar presented himself to a special investigating team (SIT) formed to probe the case, and was subsequently arrested. Nine others have also been arrested in the case so far.

The matter is currently subjudice and in its last hearing on October 20, the Supreme Court observed that the UP government seemed to be going slow on the investigation.

"We think you are dragging your feet. Please dispel that impression," observed a bench of Chief Justice of India NV Ramana and justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli.

The Bench had taken up the matter on October 7 after two lawyers sought the Supreme Court's intervention in the case. After the UP government asked for more time, the next hearing has been scheduled for October 26.

Singhu border violence

The body of Lakhbir Singh, a Dalit farmer, was found on October 15 tied to a barricade at the Singhu border with Delhi; one of his hands had been severed and his body bore multiple wounds caused by sharp weapons. Hours after the crime, Sarabjit Singh, wearing the blue robes of the Nihang order, claimed that he had "punished" Lakhbir Singh for "desecrating" a Sikh holy book.

Four people have been arrested in the case. Sarabjit Singh was the first to be arrested on October 15 for the killing of Lakhbir Singh. Hours later, Narain Singh was arrested by the Amritsar Rural police in Amarkot village of Amritsar district, the police said. He was brought to Sonipat by the Haryana Police on October 17.

Narain Singh, who spoke to journalists before his arrest, was unrepentant and said Lakhbir Singh had been "punished for sacrilege". Two more Nihangs, Govindpreet Singh and Bhagwant Singh of Fatehgarh Sahib, surrendered before Sonipat Police.

Three of the suspects were remanded to six days in police custody on October 17. Haryana Police has set up two SITs to probe the incident.

These incidents of violence have sparked outrage and triggered calls for action to clear the protest sites on Delhi's borders.

The purpose of the farmers' protest against the farm laws is being questioned, given that the Supreme Court has already stayed their implementation. Farmers have said they would settle for nothing short of a repeal of the laws.

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha, an umbrella body of farmers' unions, has distanced itself from the violence at the Singhu border and claimed that an attempt was underway to derail the protest.

So where is the protest headed now? Before we dive into that, let's do a quick recap of how the protest evolved.

The root of the protest

In September 2020, Parliament passed the three bills the government said were aimed at freeing up trade in agriculture, allowing farmers to sell their produce wherever they wanted instead of restricting them to local government-controlled mandis.

A few days later, on September 27, the three pieces of legislation received the president's signature and notified in the Gazette of India. After sporadic protests against the new farm laws, including a nationwide road blockade on November 3, farmers' unions in Punjab and Haryana on November 25 called Delhi Chalo .

Delhi Police rejected the farmers' request to be allowed to enter the city, citing Covid-19 protocols, but the farmers pressed on, braving water cannon and teargas.

Farmers protesting in the cold winters of Delhi in November 2020.

Farmers protesting in the cold winters of Delhi in November 2020.

A subsequent 11 rounds of talks between farmers' representatives and the government failed to arrive at a solution. The government said it would amend the laws, and offered to put them on hold for one-and-a-half years, but the farmers wanted them repealed.

The Bharatiya Kisan Union moved the Supreme Court against the three farm laws on December 11. On January 12, the Supreme Court stayed the implementation of the three contentious farm laws and set up a four-member committee to make recommendations on the legislation after hearing all stakeholders.

On Republic Day, thousands of protestors clashed with the police during the tractor parade called by farmers' unions. At Red Fort, a section of protestors climbed poles and walls and hoisted the Nishan Sahib flag, a Sikh religious symbol. One protester died in the chaos.

On February 6, farmers staged a nationwide chakka jam, or road blockade, for three hours from 12 noon to 3 pm. And on May 27, farmers observed a black day to mark six months of the agitation, burning effigies of the government. Although crowds at the three Delhi border points had thinned, farm leaders said their campaign would continue until 2024 if their demands were not met.

In August, reports of violence from the protest sites in Haryana's Karnal grabbed the headlines. Haryana Police cracked down on farmers, leaving several injured in a lathicharge at the Bastara toll plaza on the national highway. The farmers were protesting against a BJP meeting on upcoming panchayat polls; it was being chaired by chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar.

A standoff between the administration of Haryana and the farmers ensued. It ended only when the state government agreed to a probe of the incident by a retired judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court and said it would send Karnal sub-divisional magistrate Ayush Sinha on leave until the completion of the inquiry.

Barely a month later came the incidents in Lakhimpur Kheri and Singhu.

Where are the protests headed?

On October 19, ahead of a crucial Supreme Court hearing, farmers called for more reinforcements to join them at the borders of Delhi. The Chalo Delhi call has once again been renewed to amplify the protests.

On October 21, the Supreme Court heard a case pertaining to the farmers right to protests and if they can take to the streets when the farm laws were already being contested in court. The apex court observed that farmers have the right to protest and are not against this even when a legal challenge against the three farm laws is pending but they cannot block roads "indefinitely".

"Farmers have the right to protest but they cannot keep roads blocked indefinitely. You may have a right to agitate in any manner but roads should not be blocked like this. People have the right to go on roads but it cannot be blocked," the bench also comprising Justice M M Sundresh said.

The farmers' unions alleged that the police were responsible for the blockade at the Delhi borders as it suits them to allow a feeling in the minds of the citizens that farmers are blocking the road while the Centre claimed there was an oblique purpose behind the protests.

Farmers' Protest News | This is the first time since the violence in the national capital during a tractor rally on January 26 that the authorities have granted permission to protesting farmer unions to hold a protest in the city.
Farmers' Protest

The top court asked the farmer unions to respond within three weeks on the issue and posted the matter for further hearing on December 7.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) last month issued notices to the Centre and the governments of Delhi, Rajasthan, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, saying it had received complaints that the farmers' protests had caused an adverse impact on industrial units and that Covid-19 safety norms had been breached at the agitation sites, according to a report in Hindustan Times.

In a statement, the NHRC cited allegations that at least 9,000 micro, medium and large companies had suffered the impact of the farmers' protests. Protesting farmers have made it clear that their fight will go on until the laws are repealed. With no new date set for talks, the stalemate seems set to continue.

यूपी: अमिताभ ठाकुर के उत्पीड़न को लेकर राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग ने पुलिस कमिश्नर से मांगा जवाब

<https://www.amarujala.com/lucknow/nhrc-asks-reply-from-lucknow-police-commissioner-on-amitabh-thakur-issuse>

पूर्व आईपीएस अधिकारी अमिताभ ठाकुर के उत्पीड़न को लेकर उनकी पत्नी डॉ. नूतन ठाकुर की शिकायत का संज्ञान लेते हुए राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग ने पुलिस कमिश्नर से चार सप्ताह में जवाब मांगा है।

डॉ. नूतन ठाकुर ने अपने पति की गिरफ्तारी को सुप्रीम कोर्ट के दिशा-निर्देशों की अवहेलना बताते हुए आयोग से शिकायत की थी कि अमिताभ ठाकुर को घर से जबरन ले जाया गया और पुलिस ने उनके साथ अमानवीय व्यवहार भी किया। इसमें उन्होंने जिला कारागार लखनऊ में अमिताभ ठाकुर पर हो रहे अत्याचारों व मानवाधिकारों के उल्लंघन का भी जिक्र किया है।

मामले की गंभीरता को देखते हुए आयोग ने पुलिस कमिश्नर लखनऊ को समस्त दस्तावेज उपलब्ध कराने के निर्देश दिए हैं। इसके साथ ही ये भी कहा है कि आदेश की अवहेलना करने पर आयोग द्वारा मानव अधिकार संरक्षण अधिनियम के अंतर्गत कोएर्सिव एक्शन लिया जाएगा।

प. बंगाल में चुनाव बाद हिंसा मामले में 16 नवंबर को होगी अगली सुनवाई

<https://sanjeevnitoday.com/national/fifth-note-of-musical-scale-next-hearing-will-be-held-on/cid5603381.htm>

केंद्र सरकार ने कहा है कि राज्य सरकार किसी भी मामले में सीबीआई जांच के लिए सहमति वापस लेने के लिए व्यापक निर्देश जारी करने के अधिकार का दावा नहीं कर सकती है। पश्चिम बंगाल में चुनाव बाद हिंसा के मामले की सीबीआई जांच के खिलाफ राज्य सरकार की ओर से दायर याचिका के जवाबी हलफनामे में केंद्र सरकार ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट से ये बातें कही हैं। मामले की अगली सुनवाई 16 नवंबर को होगी।

हलफनामे में केंद्र सरकार ने कहा है कि राज्य सरकार की ओर से किसी भी मामले की जांच सीबीआई से कराने की सहमति वापस लेने का आदेश या सभी मामलों में सहमति वापस लेने का व्यापक आदेश दिल्ली विशेष पुलिस स्थापना अधिनियम की धारा 6 के तहत मिले अधिकारों का बेजा इस्तेमाल है। ऐसा करना राज्य सरकार के अधिकार क्षेत्र में नहीं है। केंद्र सरकार ने कहा है कि पश्चिम बंगाल सरकार का ये कहना आधारहीन है कि उसके पास सीबीआई से जांच वापस लेने की पूर्ण शक्ति है।

कोर्ट ने 28 सितंबर को सीबीआई, केंद्र सरकार और हाई कोर्ट में याचिकाकर्ता रहे लोगों को नोटिस जारी किया था। मामले की सुनवाई के दौरान राज्य सरकार के वकील कपिल सिब्बल ने कहा था कि हिंसा के समय प्रशासन चुनाव आयोग के हाथ में था। कलकत्ता हाई कोर्ट के निर्देश पर राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग ने कमेटी बनाई। उसमें 6 सदस्यों में से 3 विपक्षी पार्टी की विचारधारा के थे। सिब्बल ने कहा था कि हाई कोर्ट ने राज्य का पक्ष नहीं सुना। एक साथ सारे केस सीबीआई को ट्रांसफर करना गलत था। सुनवाई के दौरान सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने वरिष्ठ वकील महेश जेठमलानी से उन मामलों की लिस्ट मांगी थी जो हिंसा पीड़ितों ने सीधे सुप्रीम कोर्ट में दाखिल की हैं।

सुनवाई के दौरान 13 सितंबर को कपिल सिब्बल ने कहा था कि जांच दल के कई सदस्य सरकार के प्रति पूर्वाग्रह रखते हैं। तब कोर्ट ने सदस्यों के नाम और उसपर आपत्ति बताते हुए हलफनामा दाखिल करने का निर्देश दिया था। कलकत्ता हाई कोर्ट ने 19 अगस्त को पश्चिम बंगाल में चुनाव बाद हिंसा की सीबीआई जांच का आदेश दिया था। हाई कोर्ट के इस फैसले के खिलाफ पश्चिम बंगाल सरकार ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट का दरवाजा खटखटाया है।

Bhaskar Hindi/ News Nation

दिल्ली में पॉजिटिविटी पर नेशनल लीडरशिप समिट होगा आयोजित, यूपी की राज्यपाल होंगी मौजूद

<https://www.bhaskarhindi.com/national/news/national-leadership-summit-on-positivity-will-be-held-in-delhi-up-governor-will-be-present-305320>

<https://www.newsnationtv.com/india/news/uttar-pradeh-governor-anandiben-patelphotoians-twitter-220438.html>

सकारात्मता, रचनात्मकता और सद्भावना पर आधारित समाज के निर्माण के लिए काउंसिल ऑफ रॉयल रूट्स की ओर से नेशनल लीडरशिप समिट आयोजित किया जाएगा।

23 अक्टूबर को होने वाले इस कार्यक्रम में उत्तर प्रदेश की राज्यपाल आनंदीबेन पटेल मौजूद रहेंगी, वहीं यह सम्मेलन रिटायर्ड आईएफएस, पूर्व सचिव (विदेश मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार), राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) की मौजूदा सदस्य डॉ दयानेश्वर मुले के नेतृत्व में आयोजित किया जाएगा।

एनएचआरसी के मौजूदा सदस्य डॉ. दयानेश्वर मुले ने आईएनएस को बताया कि, हम सौभाग्यशाली हैं कि हमारे देश में लोकतंत्र है। कोविड के दौरान हमने देखा कि कितनी सारी नकारात्मकता फैली। हम ग्रास रूट से खुद को जोड़ सकते हैं, कोई स्वास्थ्य से खुद को जोड़ सकता है, कोई ग्रामीण शिक्षा में काम कर सकता है। जिससे देश में सकारात्मकता फैलाई जा सके वो काम करना चाहिए।

दरअसल इस सम्मेलन के माध्यम से बिजनेस लीडर्स, सीएसआर फाउंडेशंस, इंपैक्ट इंवेस्टर्स, परोपकारी, क्लाइमेट वॉरियर्स, नौजवान इनोवेटर्स, सरकारी एजेंसी, संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ के निकाय और गैर लाभकारी संगठनों के नेता राष्ट्र निर्माण के एजेंडे पर विचार करने के लिए एक मंच पर एकत्र होंगे।

NHRC officials threatened me, ACP tells SC panel

Police officer questioned in Disha case

ABHINAY DESHPANDE
HYDERABAD

The then Assistant Commissioner of Police (Shadnagar division) Vasam Surender told the Supreme Court-appointed commission inquiring the alleged encounter of the four accused in the rape and murder of Disha on the outskirts of the city on December 6, 2019, that he was threatened by officials of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) during his deposition.

Referring to the 15-page signed statements of Mr. Surender recorded by the NHRC, which was later submitted to the panel, the commission's advocate Virupaksha Dattatreya Gouda asked, "Is this your statement before NHRC?"

"The signatures on all the

pages are mine. I do not know what statement they have written. It was late in the night, and they threatened me saying that I would be suspended," the officer said.

'Didn't record facts'

He also said that the NHRC officials did not record what he had stated and picked up an argument with him. "I stated something else, and they wrote something else," he said.

Earlier, Mr. Surender was questioned about the custody of the four accused, where, how and when their confessional statements were recorded, and why were they not taken to the scene of the offence directly from the prison for recovery of material objects.

Threatened with suspension: ACP to panel on Disha case

'NHRC did not record what I had stated, argued with me'

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He also said that the NHRC officials did not record what he had stated and picked up an argument with him. "I stated something else and they wrote some-



The spot where Disha's body was found. ■FILE PHOTO

ing else," he said.

Responding to his answers, the commission members asked whether Mr. Surender or his department and the NHRC had any enmity. "I have no acquittance with them to know whether they have any enmity," he replied. The officer also said that details in his affidavit had some 'gaps' compared to his case diaries.

How is that, you have to explain that categorical statement made by you to the extent of disowning them whether in the statement recorded by the NHRC and signed by you and your own affidavit affirmed by

you or the case diaries written by you? the panel members asked.

Mr. Surender responded that he did not make any mistakes in the case diaries and that was his interpretation in making those entries. "Insofar as the affidavit is concerned, the mistakes occurred because of the gaps between my instructions and the preparation of affidavit by the advocate. Insofar, the NHRC statement is concerned, it is not what I had stated, it was written by them on their own," the officer said.

The officer went on to say that his statement recorded by the investigating officer and Rachakonda DCP (SOT) J Surender Reddy were 'incorrect'. "He is disowning all his previous statements," the commission members commented.

Further, when he was asked which part was recorded 'incorrectly', the officer said he was not able to recall and he would answer as and when he remembers it. "Probably, after we submit the report," commission's chairman Justice V.S. Sirpurkar commented.

Loose replies by witness anger Disha probe panel

Shadnagar ACP signed statement given to NHRC without reading it

NAVEEN KUMAR | DC
HYDERABAD, OCT. 22

Witnesses continue to give evasive and unsatisfactory replies to the three-member panel formed by the Supreme Court to probe the alleged encounter killings of the four accused in the Disha rape and murder case.

The panel continued to cross-examine the then ACP of Shadnagar, V. Surender, who is currently posted in the CID, on Friday. The official and his team escorted the four accused men (A1 to A4) — Mohammed Arif, Jollu Shiva, Jollu Naveen and Ch. Chennakesavulu — to Ravi Guest House, the safehouse they were kept until they were taken for the scene reconstruction at Chatanpally on December 6.

The panel asked the official, who was the investigation officer (IO), when they reached the guest house at about 1 am from Cherlapally prison, why did he not meet them for interrogation until 10 am on the next day. The officer replied that the assistant IO had made them fill the interrogation form at night. The panel frowned upon and said it took just about half-an-hour to fill that

Cops move court to be quizzed last

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, OCT. 22

Two police officials who are listed witnesses in the alleged encounter of four suspects in the Disha rape and murder case on Friday approached the Telangana High Court, urging it to direct the Supreme Court-appointed inquiry commission to examine them only after all witnesses are examined.

Vasama Surendhar, DSP in the crime investigation department (CID), who was then the investigation officer in the Disha case and Kondam Narasimha Reddy, inspector, filed separate petitions before the High Court.

They complained that the commission had orally

up and why was there such a long gap.

There were further discrepancies in statements

issued a rejection order on October 21 in the interim applications filed by them to treat them as independent witnesses under Section 8-B. They appealed to the High Court to set aside the oral rejection order further direct the commission to examine them as independent witnesses.

The two police officials received notices on March 10 to appear before the commission for examination as state witnesses. Their names were initially included in the witness list furnished by the state government as its witnesses.

They filed interim applications to treat them as independent witnesses under section 8-B and to take his evidence in the last. But they were rejected orally.

and he told the panel that his statement given to the NHRC was incorrect. When the panel asked why he signed it,

● THE DEPOSITION of Shadnagar ACP V. Surender, who is currently posted in the CID, ended with 179 questions and will further continue on Saturday.

● HE WAS questioned about 'mistakes' in the remand case diary that says lorry owner Patolla Srinivas Reddy brought the four accused to police station.

he said there was a dispute and argument and he ended up signing the report without reading it. His deposition on Friday ended with 179 questions and will further continue on Saturday.

Earlier on Thursday, the then ACP was questioned about the 'mistakes' in the remand case diary, which says that owner of the lorry, Patolla Srinivas Reddy, brought the four accused men to the police station. He told the panel that it was the SHO of Shadnagar, A. Sridhar Kumar, who arrested the four accused and due to a 'copy-paste' mistake, it appeared that lorry owner, P. Srinivasa Reddy, had brought the accused to the Shadnagar police station in the remand case diary.

NHRC staff threatened me, signed statement without reading it: ACP

Mahesh.Buddi@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: On the second day of his deposition before the SC-appointed panel inquiring into the alleged encounter of four accused in Disha rape and murder, ACP V Surender claimed that NHRC team threatened him while recording his statement and he signed without reading it. The incident happened in the presence of NHRC DIG Manzil Saini and he had reported it to Shamshabad DCP, the ACP said.

Surender, then ACP of Shadnagar and investigating officer (IO) of Disha rape and murder case, had taken the four accused to agricultural fields in Chattanpally for recovery of articles on December 6, 2019, when the alleged encounter happened.

'NO MISTAKE IN CASE DIARY'

► The ACP claimed that there was no mistake in the case diary either



► He said that the mistake occurred in the affidavit due to a gap between his instructions and preparation of documents by the advocate

While admitting that his statement running into 15 pages was signed by him, the ACP said he was not sure what finally went in it as there was an argument with NHRC officials over contradiction between what he had stated and what they had recorded.

“It was late in the night. They had also threatened that if they write a report, I will be suspended. DIG madam was also present. My

mental state was not well. It was late hours. Because of their threatening, I could not do anything and I signed,” the ACP, who has 28 years in the service, told the commission.

The incident was reported to Shamshabad DCP N Prakash Reddy who “simply listened”, the ACP said, adding that he decided not to pursue it further.

Regarding the confessional statements of the four ac-

cused, ACP Surender stated that it was recorded at the safe house by panch witnesses with the help of a scribe on the intervening night of December 5-6, 2019. But the commission's advocate questioned the ACP's claims by pointing at his case diary, his affidavit before the commission and also his statement recorded by the IO of the alleged encounter case, J Surender Reddy, where it was mentioned that the confessions were recorded by him.

The ACP said that he did not make any such statement before J Surender Reddy and also claimed that there was no mistake in the case diary either. He said that the mistake occurred in the affidavit due to gap between his instructions and preparation of document by the advocate.

NHRC team threatened me: Ex-ACP Shadnagar

PINTO DEEPAK @ Hyderabad

V Surender, then ACP of Shadnagar, deposed before the three-member judicial commission probing the death of four persons, who were accused in the rape and murder of a veterinarian, in a 'police encounter'. He said that the NHRC team had threatened him into signing his statement recorded by them. "They said that if they wrote a report, I would be suspended," he said.

After the alleged encounter, a team of NHRC officials had recorded Surender's statement at the State police academy. Two to three persons from the NHRC were present while his statement was being recorded. This included NHRC SSP Manjil Saini, who had led the team.

"I did not complain about the threat. I just informed DCP Shamshabad N Prakash Reddy about it. He simply listened and did not say anything. I decided to let it go as I didn't want to make an issue out of it," Surender said.

He further said that the NHRC members had written down his statements differently. "They did not record what I had stated. When I pointed that out to them, an argument ensued," he said.

When Surender said that he did not go through the statement after that, the commis-

sion asked him: "If you didn't read the statement, then how can you say that the NHRC team wrote something else as your statement?" He responded that the statement was read out to him. "Because they were threatening me, I could not do anything. I just signed it," he said.

Surender then said that the interrogation reports in the case were prepared by the Assistant IO, and that he "did not have any idea if they are part of the case diary".

The material objects in the case were seized on November 28, 2019, and submitted to FSL on December 3, 2019. When asked why it was delayed, Surender denied that there was any delay.



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V Surender, former Shadnagar ACP

TWO WRIT PETITIONS FILED IN HIGH COURT

In the Shadnagar 'encounter' case, two writ petitions have been filed in the High Court by Konda Narasimha Reddy, Inspector of Police, and Vasam Surender, DSP-CID, challenging the rejection of their plea to be treated as independent witnesses. The inquiry commission appointed by the Supreme Court had on Thursday orally rejected their plea and the petitioners therefore approached the High Court

Commission grills official on disowning statements

ENS @ Hyderabad

THE three-member judicial commission asked V Surender, then ACP of Shadnagar, if he was 'disowning his statements on different occasions'.

"How is that you explain the categorical statements made by you to the extent of disowning them, whether it is the statement recorded by the NHRC and signed by you or your own affidavit affirmed by you or the case diaries written by you?" Surender replied that he had not made any mistake in the case diary and what was mentioned in it was his interpretation. The mistake in the affidavit occurred

because of the gap between his instructions and preparation of the affidavit by the advocate. "Insofar as the NHRC statement is concerned, it is not what I had stated. It was written by them on their own."

He also said that in his statement under Section 164 of the CrPC, he did not state before J Surender Reddy, DCP SOT, Rachakonda, that he had recorded the confessional statements of the accused. When asked to go through his entire 164 CrPC statement and point out which parts of it were incorrectly recorded, he said, "Except for the said statement, the remaining part is correctly recorded."



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Police officer questioned in Disha case

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Earlier, Mr. Surender was questioned about the custody of the four accused, where, how and when their confessional statements were recorded, and why were they not taken to the scene of the offence directly from the prison for recovery of material objects.

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