

The New Indian Express

NHRC chief calls for reforms, tackling injustice

The NHRC chief, Arun Kumar Mishra, was speaking at a colloquium on Distributive Justice and Substantive Equality at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan on Friday.

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/karnataka/2024/jan/13/nhrc-chief-calls-forreforms-tackling-injustice-2650515.html>

By Express News Service

BENGALURU : Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission and former Supreme Court judge Justice Arun Kumar Mishra emphasized the significance of reservation as a tool to ensure justice for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (SC and ST) communities.

Despite India celebrating 75 years of Independence, these communities face persistent challenges, he said and advocated change, even if it requires amending existing laws. This, among other topics including gender equality, education and healthcare, was conveyed during a colloquium on Distributive Justice and Substantive Equality at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan on Friday.

Fundamental rights are not mere privileges, but justice given to every citizen. People are the driving force behind development, hence, they should be prioritized equally for overall growth. Differences continue to exist in society, in such cases, if the law cannot address the differences, it should redefine certain concepts, including gender equality, and confront the persistent denial of fundamental rights for SC and ST castes, Justice Mishra said.

He said that as the world undergoes swift technological advancements, disparities emerge in the form of a digital divide, which poses a potential obstacle to the country's overall progress. It is imperative for the system to vigilantly address challenges posed by technology, such as instances of child sexual abuse, where a child is live-streamed, and others profit from it. Courts should enact laws holding intermediaries accountable and impose penalties to address such issues.

Speaking about imbalances and advocating substantive equality, Justice Mishra added that to achieve sustainable growth, society must rectify existing imbalances as the equal provision of education, healthcare and basic amenities, as mandated by the Constitution, is crucial for fostering a more equitable environment.

Furthermore, challenges such as ensuring equal pay for equal work, and addressing exploitation based on social background, including the deplorable practice of manual scavenging, demand immediate attention. In the post-Independence era, courts cannot afford to remain silent spectators.

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The Story of Ordinary Women Bilkis Bano Battling for Justice with the State” has restored faith in the idea of justice after the SC Ruling on remission of her raped Convicts

<https://thehindustangazette.com/latest-news/the-story-of-ordinary-women-bilkis-bano-battling-for-justice-with-the-state-has-restored-faith-in-the-idea-of-justice-after-the-sc-ruling-on-remission-of-her-raped-convicts-24390>

By The Hindustan Gazette

The Supreme Court's judgement in the Bilkis Bano case on Monday will shine as a tremendously worthy exception. It stands out for other reasons.

This was a judgement for a woman, by a woman, represented by women. For Bano to have steadfastly and doggedly engaged with the country's legal machinery in her quest for justice is highly commendable in itself.

At the height of the infamous Gujarat Riots in February 2002, Ms. Bilkis Bano and her family fled from their home in Randhikpur village. On March 3rd, 2002, they reached Chappawrwad village but were ambushed by an armed mob.

The men gangraped Ms. Bano and, reportedly, murdered seven members of her family including her infant daughter. She approached the local police to file a complaint. However, the police initially refused to lodge an FIR. When they finally deigned to do so, the police omitted several important details including the names of many of the assailants.

In March 2022, Mr. Radheshyam Bhagwandas Shah (one of the convicts) approached the SC seeking a remission of his sentence which would result in an early release. He claimed that the Gujarat State Government had an obligation to consider his early release as per the states' 1992 remission policy. State governments may enact remission policies to allow individuals or certain classes of individuals to file applications for early release from prison.

In May 2022, the Bench comprising Justices A. Rastogi and V. Nath Directed the Gujarat government to consider his remission application in accordance with the 1992 policy.

In August 15th, 2022, during Independence Day celebrations, the Gujarat government accepted the remission applications for all 11 convicts who were sentenced to life imprisonment. The Gujarat government stated that they were granted early release in accordance with the 1992 policy, citing the 'good conduct' of the convicts while imprisoned. Their release was promptly met with widespread criticism and protest from journalists, civil society organisations and citizens. Critics have noted that the convicts did not complete 14 years in prison at the time of their release—a requirement for early release under the 1992 policy. Further, despite the claims of 'good conduct', nine of the

convicts reportedly violated their parole and one was charged with molestation while he was out on parole.

Later that same month, Bilkis Bano, Communist Party (Marxist) leader Subhashini Ali challenged the Gujarat government's decision. Professor Roop Rekha Verma and journalist Revati Laul are co-petitioners as well. They claim that the Gujarat government's decision to release 11 convicts at once was 'premature' and 'mechanical'. Each individual application has to be considered separately instead of releasing all 11 convicts 'en masse'. They also claim the Gujarat government should have consulted the Union before remitting the convicts' sentences as they were convicted by a CBI Special Court, which is a central agency. Further, the petitioners claim that the crimes were so heinous that no 'right-thinking' public authority could grant remission.

However on March 3, 2002 Ahmedabad's violent mob descended upon the family of 19-year-old Bilkis Bano, resulting in the tragic loss of seven family members. Amidst this chaos, Bilkis, who was five months pregnant at the time, was gang-raped, while six other members of her family managed to escape.

2002-2003: Despite her efforts, the local police consistently rejected Bilkis's case, citing insufficient evidence, and even went so far as to threaten her with legal consequences if she persisted. Turning to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) for help, Bilkis eventually appealed to the Supreme Court.

December 2003. Responding to her plea, the Supreme Court mandated the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to undertake an inquiry into the matter.

January 2004: Following a thorough examination of the evidence presented in Bilkis's complaint, the CBI apprehended all the suspects allegedly involved.

August 2004: Concerned about potential tampering with evidence and risks to witnesses, Bilkis expressed her worries. Consequently, the High Court opted to transfer the trial from Ahmedabad to Bombay.

January 2008: The trial court found 12 individuals guilty of various charges including rape, conspiracy, and murder. Eleven of them received life sentences after one of them died during the trial. In response, the defendants challenged their convictions in the High Court, seeking to overturn the trial court's verdict.

July 2011: The CBI urged the Bombay High Court to impose the death penalty on the convicts.

July 15, 2016: The Bombay High Court deliberated on appeals presented by the 11 individuals charged in connection with the 2002 gang rape case.

September 2016: The convicts' lawyer requested a re-examination of several witnesses, but the Bombay High Court rejected this petition.

October 2016: The Bombay High Court dismissed the application under the Code of Criminal Procedure while indicating that Bilkis could potentially elevate her application to an appeal.

December 2016: The Bombay High Court reserved judgment on appeals filed by 11 prisoners who had been sentenced to life imprisonment. Additionally, the Court reserved judgment on a CBI appeal that sought the death penalty for three of the convicted individuals, classifying it as an extraordinary circumstance.

May 2017: The Bombay High Court upheld the life sentences of the 11 convicts.

May 15, 2022: Seeking early release, one of the prisoners, who had already served more than 15 years, approached the Supreme Court. One of the individuals who had been convicted, Radheshyam Shah filed a petition to the Gujarat High Court in pursuit of sentence remission under the provisions outlined in sections 432 and 433 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The high court dismissed his appeal, highlighting that the decision regarding his remission rested with the “appropriate government,” which, in this case, was determined to be Maharashtra rather than Gujarat.

Subsequently, Shah submitted a plea to the Supreme Court, wherein he asserted that, as of April 1, 2022, he had spent a total of 15 years and four months in prison without receiving any form of remission. Responding to his plea, the Supreme Court instructed the Gujarat government to examine the matter of remission of Shah’s sentence. This directive led the government to establish a committee, under the leadership of Panchmahal Collector Sujal Mayatra, to address the issue.

August 15, 2022: As part of the Gujarat government’s remission policy, the eleven convicts were granted release from the Godhra sub-jail. The release of the 11 men triggered a widespread public outcry, prompting various PILs to be submitted to the Supreme Court. Notable individuals, including Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra and former CPI member MP Subhashini Ali, filed these PILs in August 2022.

Subsequently, in November 2022, Bano herself appealed to the Supreme Court, contesting the Gujarat government’s decision to permit the 11 men’s release from incarceration.

December 2022: The Supreme Court dismissed the review petition filed by Bano that challenged the May 2022 order of the top court, which directed the remission of one of the convicts to be considered according to the 1992 remission policy of the Gujarat government.

March 2023: The case challenging the release of the eleven accused men was listed before a Bench of Justices KM Joseph and BV Nagarathna. The Bench issued notice to the Centre, Gujarat government and 11 convicts on the petition filed by Bilkis Bano.

April 2023: Extensive arguments began from both sides. The Supreme Court questioned Gujarat government's decision to allow premature release of 11 convicts in the Bilkis Bano case. The Bench argued that when remission is considered in such heinous crimes affecting the society at large, the power must be exercised keeping in mind public interest.

September 2023: Continuing the hearings, the Supreme Court observed that some convicts are "more privileged" of getting parole for many days, unlike other convicts. The Bench also questioned how one of the convicts was allowed to practise law after his conviction.

October 2023: The top court reserved its verdict and asked the Centre and the Gujarat government to submit original records of files where the decision of remission was taken.

January 2024: Citing the Gujarat government's incompetence, the Supreme Court cancelled the High Court order that had allowed the early release of Bilkis Bano's rapists. A bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and Ujjal Bhuyan also acknowledged that the petition challenging the premature remission of the eleven convicts in the Bilkis Bano case was valid.

The Supreme Court gave two weeks to the convicts to surrender.

Days after her attackers were freed, Bilkis Bano issued a statement calling the decision to free the men "unjust" and said it had "shaken" her faith in justice.

"When I heard that the convicts who had devastated my family and life had walked free, I was bereft of words. I am still numb," she said.

"How can justice for any woman end like this? I trusted the highest courts in our land. I trusted the system, and I was learning slowly to live with my trauma. The release of these convicts has taken from me my peace and shaken my faith in justice," she wrote, appealing to the Gujarat government to "undo this harm" and "give me back my right to live without fear and in peace".

The decision had caused massive outrage in India. It was criticised by opposition parties, activists and several journalists, who said it discriminated against India's minority Muslims. Attacks on the community have risen sharply since the BJP formed the federal government in 2014.

More than 6,000 activists, historians and citizens issued a statement urging the Supreme Court to revoke the early release of the convicts, describing it as a "grave miscarriage of justice".

Many also pointed out that the release was in contravention of guidelines issued by both the federal government and the Gujarat state government – both say that rape and murder convicts cannot be granted remission. Life terms in these crimes are usually served until death in India.

The biggest setback from the state government's decision has been for Bilkis Bano and her family.

The anger and despondence of the family is easy to understand considering the magnitude of the crime and the protracted battle they had to fight for justice.

The attack on Bilkis Bano and her family was one of the most horrific crimes during the riots, which began after 60 Hindu pilgrims died in a fire on a passenger train in Godhra town.

Blaming Muslims for starting the fire, Hindu mobs went on a rampage, attacking Muslim neighbourhoods. Over three days, more than 1,000 people died, most of them Muslims.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was then Gujarat chief minister, was criticised for not doing enough to prevent the carnage. He has always denied wrongdoing and has not apologised for the riots.

In 2013, a Supreme Court panel also said that there was insufficient evidence to prosecute him. But critics have continued to blame him for the riots happening on his watch.

Over the years, the courts have convicted dozens of people for involvement in the riots, but some high-profile accused got bail or were exonerated by higher courts.

This included Maya Kodnani, an ex-minister and aide to Mr Modi, whom a trial court had called "the kingpin of the riots".

And now the men who wronged Bilkis Bano have also been set free.

The morning after the train fire, Bilkis Bano – then 19 and pregnant with her second child – was visiting her parents in a village called Randhikpur near Godhra with her three-year-old daughter.

"I was in the kitchen making lunch, when my aunt and her children came running. They said their homes were being set on fire and we had to leave immediately," she told. "We left with just the clothes we were wearing, we didn't even have the time to put on our slippers."

Bilkis Bano was in a group of 17 Muslims that included her daughter, her mother, a pregnant cousin, her younger siblings, nieces and nephews, and two adult men.

Over the next few days, they travelled from village to village, seeking shelter in mosques or subsisting on the kindness of Hindu neighbours.

On the morning of 3 March, as they set out to go to a nearby village where they believed they would be safer, a group of men stopped them.

“They attacked us with swords and sticks. One of them snatched my daughter from my lap and threw her on the ground, bashing her head into a rock.”

Her attackers were her neighbours in the village, men she had seen almost daily while growing up. They tore off her clothes and several of them raped her, ignoring her pleas for mercy.

Her cousin, who had delivered a baby two days earlier while they were on the run, was raped and murdered and her newborn was killed.

Bilkis Bano survived because she lost consciousness and her attackers left, believing she was dead. Two boys – seven and four – were the only other survivors of the massacre.

Bilkis Bano’s fight for justice was long and nightmarish. It has been well documented that some police and state officials tried to intimidate her, evidence was destroyed and the dead were buried without post-mortems. The doctors who examined her said she hadn’t been raped, and she received death threats.

The first arrests in the case were made only in 2004 after India’s Supreme Court handed over the case to federal investigators. The top court also agreed that courts in Gujarat could not deliver her justice and transferred her case to Mumbai.

Her fight for justice was also disruptive for her family – they’ve had to move home nearly a dozen times.

“We still can’t go home because we’re afraid. Police and the state administration have always helped our attackers. When we are in Gujarat, we still cover our faces, we never give out our address,” her husband had said according to the BBC.

During the trial, there were calls for the death penalty for Bilkis Bano’s attackers, including from herself.

But after the high court in Mumbai sentenced them to life, she said she was “not interested in revenge” and “just wanted them to understand what they’ve done”.

“I hope they will one day realise the enormity of their crime, how they killed small children and raped women.”

But, she added, she wanted them “to spend their entire lives in jail”.

After their release, her husband told the Indian Express Newspaper that his wife was “distressed and melancholic”. “The battle we fought for so many years has been wrapped up in one moment,” he said. “We have not even had the time to process this news and we know that the convicts have already reached their homes.”

Advocate Shobha Gupta appeared for Bano, along with senior advocates Indira Jaising, Vrinda Grover and Aparna Bhat, amongst others. They showed immense courage and fortitude.

The judgement itself was authored by Justice BV Nagarathna. As she observed, “A woman deserves respect howsoever high or low she may otherwise be considered in society or to whatever faith she may follow or whatever faith she may follow or whatever creed she may belong to. Can heinous crimes against women permit remission? These are the issues.”

The second reason the Bilkis Bano verdict deserves attention and praise is a truth that stares us in the face every day. India is a country that is patently unsafe for women. The 2022 edition of the National Crime Records Bureau – released after months of delay – shows that the rate of crime against women (number of incidents per 1 lakh population) increased from 64.5% in 2021 to 66% in 2022.

This shocking statistic is layered with the elements of caste, community, religion, economic and social status. The violence against women only intensifies for the marginalised. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act of 2013 was an outcome of the heinous violence inflicted on the victim of the Delhi gangrape case the previous year. Several acts were included as offences.

The power of the Bilkis Bano judgement is not just in the truth it has upheld but in the reverberations it could have on other cases related to violence against women.

Finally, the moot question: what does a woman’s dignity actually mean in India?

Consider some recent crimes in India: women have been paraded naked and reportedly raped in the gruesome ethnic conflict in Manipur; an Olympic-medal winner has been begging for justice after alleging sexual harassment by the former head of the country’s wrestling federation; a student of the Indian Institute of Technology-Banaras Hindu University was allegedly gangraped and a video shot of her after she was forced at gunpoint to take off her clothes by three men, at least two of them are alleged to be part of the Bharatiya Janata Party’s social media cell in Varanasi.

For the ruling party, women are now key electoral labharthis, or beneficiaries. Nagarathna’s judgement demands that all three arms of the government see women as more than that.

In her statement after the Supreme Court verdict, Bilkis Bano wrote, “Even as I absorb the full meaning of this verdict for my own life and for my children’s lives, the dua that emerges from my heart today is simple – the rule of law, above all else and equality before law, for all.” And it really is that clear and simple.

This is what justice feels like, Bilkis Bano said after the Supreme Court on Monday quashed the remission granted to 11 men convicted of raping her and murdering seven members of her family during the 2002 riots in Gujarat.

While quashing the Gujarat government’s decision to grant remission, the apex court also said the state government’s order was “stereotyped” and passed without application of mind.

In a statement issued through her lawyer Shobha Gupta, Bano thanked the top court for the verdict and said “today is truly the New Year for me”.

I have wept tears of relief. I have smiled for the first time in over a year and half. I have hugged my children. It feels like a stone the size of a mountain has been lifted from my chest, and I can breathe again,” Bano said.

“This is what justice feels like. I thank the honourable Supreme Court of India for giving me, my children and women everywhere this vindication and hope in the promise of equal justice for all,” Bano said. Accusing the Gujarat government of abusing its power, the Supreme Court also ordered that the 11 men be sent back to jail within two weeks.

In the statement, Bano also said that journeys like that of hers can never be made alone.

“I have had my husband and my children by my side. I have had my friends who have given me so much love at a time of such hate, and held my hand at each difficult turn. I have had an extraordinary lawyer, Advocate Shobha Gupta, who has walked with me unwaveringly for over 20 long years, and who never allowed me to lose hope in the idea of justice,” she said.

She said that “a year and half ago, on August 15, 2022, when those who had destroyed my family and terrorised my very existence, were given an early release, I simply collapsed”.

Bano said she felt she had exhausted her “reservoir of courage”, until a “million solidarities” came her way.

“Thousands of ordinary people and women of India came forward. They stood with me, spoke for me, and filed PIL petitions in the Supreme Court. 6,000 people from all over, and 8,500 people from Mumbai wrote appeals, 10,000 people wrote an Open Letter, as did 40,000 people from 29 districts of Karnataka,” she said.

“To each of these people, my gratitude for your precious solidarity and strength. You gave me the will to struggle, to rescue the idea of justice not just for me, but for every woman in India. I thank you,” Bano said.

She said even as she absorbs the full meaning of this verdict “for my own life, and for my children’s lives, the ‘dua’ that emerges from my heart today is simple – “ the rule of law, above all else and equality before law, for all”.

Times of India

Stir still on in case of 'fake encounter'

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chandigarh/protest-demanding-action-on-allegations-of-police-shooting-and-bribery/articleshow/106827184.cms>

Hisar/Charkhi Dadri: A protest to demand action on allegations of police shooting at a man and demanding a bribe from his family to not torture him in custody, continued on Saturday.

Police also recorded the statements of the complainant and two others. However, complainant Bijendra alleged that while recording his statement, he was intimidated and pressured in many ways and the inquiry team got his signatures on a statement written as per their wish. He said he has sent a complaint against the inquiry team to the director general of police, National Human Rights Commission and Haryana home minister. He said he will also filed a petition in the Punjab and Haryana high court.

Advocate Sanjeev Takshak, who was leading the protest, said that in the afternoon, deputy superintendent of police Subhash Chandra gave notice to complainant Bijendra, and Sanjay Sahu and Jagbir, to call them for questioning. After this, Bijendra was made to sit in a separate room along with two other police officers. He claimed that Bijendra was harassed for about two hours. The inquiry team also harassed the complainant in different ways under the pretext of inquiry and exerted illegal pressure, he said.

Takshak said they will call a meeting of local citizens soon. The case is related to police shooting a man named Sonu in the leg and showing the incident as an action taken to nab him. It has also been alleged that the police had taken Rs 10 lakh from his family to not torture him in police custody. DSP Subhas Chander could not be contacted despite repeated attempts.

Business News this Week

The Government and national institutions recognise disabled rights and need to provide opportunities in all areas:

<https://businessnewsthisweek.com/news/the-government-and-national-institutions-recognise-disabled-rights-and-need-to-provide-opportunities-in-all-areas/>

January 13, 2024

Hyderabad, January 123, 20204, Several speakers stressed the need to recognise unique skills among the differently abled and facilitate equal opportunities for them in all areas. Speaking at a seminar organised by Manasa Institute of Child Health and Disability Studies in Kothapet, on the occasion of National Youth Day and Swami Vivekananda's 161st birth anniversary, they called for the need to provide special facilities to enable the differently abled to excel with their residue skills.

Smt. S. Vijaya Bharati, a Member of, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) participating as chief guest said that differently-abled people are very innocent, honest and carry great human qualities. She said that the government and also various national institutions are recognising their rights and need to provide opportunities in all areas.

She said that NHRC has been working in several ways to ensure that the differently abled are not discriminated against in any way and that various mechanisms are available to act against any victimisation. She urged that society in general should treat them with respect and encourage them to cultivate skilful activities in various areas.

Dr Dasari Srinivasulu, former principal secretary of the government, said that the differently abled may be having some physical limitations, but they are not lagging in numerous skills. He said that disability should not be allowed to hamper their life ambitions of achieving new heights in their chosen careers.

He said disabled people used to demonstrate unique skills and suggested ensuring needful psychological support to them. He stressed the need for participatory support for disabled people from various sections of society.

Malka Komaraiah, Pro-Chairman, Delhi Public School, assured to extend possible support to meet the needs of differently-abled people from his group of educational institutions.

Earlier, youth with disabilities presented several cultural activities. Principal L. Lakshmi presented a report of various facilities in their institute for children and youth with disabilities, including physiotherapy, speech therapy, a Neuro-developmental clinic, a special school for children with intellectual disabilities, and a vocational training centre for people with disabilities. A new brochure from the Manasa Institute of Child Health & Disabilities is released on this occasion.

Janta Se Rishta

NHRC प्रमुख ने अन्याय से निपटने, सुधारों का आह्वान किया

<https://jantaserishta.com/karnataka/nhrc-chief-calls-for-reforms-tackling-injustice-1052247>

बेंगलुरु: राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग के अध्यक्ष और सुप्रीम कोर्ट के पूर्व न्यायाधीश न्यायमूर्ति अरुण कुमार मिश्रा ने अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति (एससी और एसटी) समुदायों के लिए न्याय सुनिश्चित करने के एक उपकरण के रूप में आरक्षण के महत्व पर जोर दिया।

उन्होंने कहा कि भारत की आजादी के 75 साल पूरे होने का जश्न मनाने के बावजूद, इन समुदायों को लगातार चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है और उन्होंने बदलाव की वकालत की, भले ही इसके लिए मौजूदा कानूनों में संशोधन की आवश्यकता हो। लैंगिक समानता, शिक्षा और स्वास्थ्य सेवा सहित अन्य विषयों के अलावा, यह बात शुक्रवार को भारतीय विद्या भवन में वितरणात्मक न्याय और मूल समानता पर एक संगोष्ठी के दौरान व्यक्त की गई।

मौलिक अधिकार केवल विशेषाधिकार नहीं हैं, बल्कि प्रत्येक नागरिक को दिया गया न्याय भी हैं। लोग विकास के पीछे प्रेरक शक्ति हैं, इसलिए समग्र विकास के लिए उन्हें समान रूप से प्राथमिकता दी जानी चाहिए। न्यायमूर्ति मिश्रा ने कहा, समाज में मतभेद बने रहते हैं, ऐसे मामलों में, यदि कानून मतभेदों को संबोधित नहीं कर सकता है, तो उसे लैंगिक समानता सहित कुछ अवधारणाओं को फिर से परिभाषित करना चाहिए और एससी और एसटी जातियों के लिए मौलिक अधिकारों के लगातार इनकार का सामना करना चाहिए।

उन्होंने कहा कि जैसे-जैसे दुनिया तेजी से तकनीकी प्रगति कर रही है, असमानताएं डिजिटल विभाजन के रूप में सामने आती हैं, जो देश की समग्र प्रगति में संभावित बाधा उत्पन्न करती है। सिस्टम के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी द्वारा उत्पन्न चुनौतियों का सतर्कतापूर्वक समाधान करना अनिवार्य है, जैसे कि बाल यौन शोषण के मामले, जहां एक बच्चे को लाइव-स्ट्रीम किया जाता है, और अन्य लोग इससे लाभ उठाते हैं। अदालतों को ऐसे मुद्दों के समाधान के लिए बिचौलियों को जवाबदेह ठहराने के लिए कानून बनाना चाहिए और दंड लगाना चाहिए।

असंतुलन के बारे में बोलते हुए और वास्तविक समानता की वकालत करते हुए, न्यायमूर्ति मिश्रा ने कहा कि सतत विकास हासिल करने के लिए, समाज को मौजूदा असंतुलन को दूर करना होगा क्योंकि संविधान द्वारा अनिवार्य शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य देखभाल और बुनियादी सुविधाओं का समान प्रावधान, अधिक न्यायसंगत वातावरण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है।

इसके अलावा, समान काम के लिए समान वेतन सुनिश्चित करने और सिर पर मैला ढोने की निंदनीय प्रथा सहित सामाजिक पृष्ठभूमि के आधार पर शोषण को संबोधित करने जैसी चुनौतियाँ तत्काल ध्यान देने की मांग करती हैं। स्वतंत्रता के बाद के युग में, अदालतें मूक दर्शक बने रहने का जोखिम नहीं उठा सकतीं।

Saralnama

एनएचआरसी ने कारवां बाजार झुग्गी बस्ती में लगी आग में हताहतों और क्षति पर गहरी चिंता व्यक्त की

<https://saralnama.in/%E0%A4%8F%E0%A4%A8%E0%A4%8F%E0%A4%9A%E0%A4%86%E0%A4%B0%E0%A4%B8%E0%A5%80-%E0%A4%A8%E0%A5%87-%E0%A4%95%E0%A4%BE%E0%A4%B0%E0%A4%B5%E0%A4%BE%E0%A4%82-%E0%A4%AC%E0%A4%BE%E0%A4%9C%E0%A4%BE%E0%A4%B0/>

यूएनबी

13 जनवरी, 2024, शाम 07:25 बजे

अंतिम संशोधन: 13 जनवरी, 2024, सायं 07:24 बजे

13 जनवरी की सुबह करीब 2:23 बजे राजधानी की एक झुग्गी बस्ती में आग लग गई। फोटो: बांग्लादेश अग्निशमन सेवा एवं नागरिक सुरक्षा

13 जनवरी की सुबह करीब 2:23 बजे राजधानी की एक झुग्गी बस्ती में आग लग गई। फोटो: बांग्लादेश अग्निशमन सेवा एवं नागरिक सुरक्षा

राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) ने शनिवार तड़के ढाका के तेजगांव इलाके में एक झुग्गी बस्ती में आग लगने से एक महिला और एक बच्चे की मौत और नुकसान पर गहरी चिंता व्यक्त की।

अध्यक्ष डॉ कमाल उद्दीन अहमद ने कहा कि झुग्गीवासी कई तरह के नागरिक अधिकारों से वंचित हैं, वहीं राजधानी की झुगियों में लगातार आग लगने की घटनाएं उन्हें परेशान करती हैं।

उन्होंने कहा कि इस बात की पहचान करने के लिए उचित जांच की जरूरत है कि इस तरह की आग की घटनाएं दुर्घटनाएं हैं या तोड़फोड़।

आग में शामिल लोगों के लिए अनुकरणीय सजा की मांग करते हुए एनएचआरसी अध्यक्ष ने कहा कि सभी नागरिक अधिकारों को सुनिश्चित करके झुग्गीवासियों की आजीविका को उन्नत करने के लिए एक सुनियोजित पहल करनी होगी।

उन्होंने सभी को सतर्क रहने का सुझाव दिया ताकि निहित व्यक्ति या समूह किसी विनाशकारी खेल में शामिल न हो सकें।

अग्नि सुरक्षा गियर की आवश्यकता पर जोर देते हुए मानवाधिकार आयोग के प्रमुख ने कहा कि झुग्गी-झोपड़ी में नागरिक अधिकारों को सुनिश्चित करने के साथ-साथ सुरक्षा उपायों को भी मजबूत करना होगा।

ढाका के कारवां बाजार में मोल्लाबारी झुग्गी बस्ती में शनिवार तड़के आग लग गई।

बाद में दमकलकर्मियों ने झुग्गी से दो लोगों के जले हुए शव बरामद किए।

सूचना पर 13 अग्निशमन इकाइयां मौके पर पहुंचीं और आग पर काबू पाया।