

Cal HC Satisfied at CBI Probe Progress in Sandeshkhali, Allows NHRC to Be Party in the Case

<https://www.msn.com/en-in/news/India/cal-hc-satisfied-at-cbi-probe-progress-in-sandeshkhali-allows-nhrc-to-be-party-in-the-case/ar-AA1o1Sck?apiversion=v2&noservercache=1&domshim=1&renderwebcomponents=1&wcseo=1&batchservertelemetry=1&noservertelemetry=1>

The Calcutta High Court on Thursday expressed satisfaction with the progress of the CBI's probe into allegations of crimes against women and land grabbing in West Bengal's Sandeshkhali.

The court permitted the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to be added as a party to the case, following its application

Chief Justice T S Sivagnanam, along with Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharyya, reviewed the CBI's report and granted the agency's request to keep the details confidential.

The court had on April 10 directed the CBI to probe the allegations of crimes against women and land grabbing in Sandeshkhali and directed it to file a progress report on Thursday.

The court, which is monitoring the investigation, had also directed the central agency to probe alleged illegal conversion of agricultural land into waterbodies for pisciculture after conducting a thorough inspection of revenue records and physical inspection of land alleged to have been converted.

Holding that its presence will assist the court in the present case, the bench granted permission to NHRC to be added as party to the matter.

The court is hearing a suo motu petition and other PILs with regard to the incidents in Sandeshkhali. Stating that there are over 900 allegations of land grabbing, the CBI sought the court's direction to the state authorities for cooperation

The court directed the state authorities to extend "fullest cooperation" and said if there is any shortage of staff, appropriate authorities will deploy additional staff for the purpose and they will work in tandem with the CBI.

The court scheduled the next hearing for June 13, directing the CBI to submit a further progress report.

Noting that the state had moved a special leave petition before the Supreme Court on the matter, the division bench stated that the apex court has said that the pendency of the appeal cannot be used as a ground for any pause in the ongoing probe.

The bench directed that the orders issued by this court have to be scrupulously complied with. Petitioner-lawyer Priyanka Tibrewal argued that despite filing affidavits detailing the horrifying incidents, some victims of sexual assault were hesitant to speak the truth due to fear

She had previously submitted several hundred complaints, encompassing allegations of sexual violence, land grabbing, assault, and property destruction, to the court during an earlier hearing.

The court asked the CBI to take confidence-building measures in cases where the complainants seek adequate protection.

“As a premier investigating agency, they will have all the wherewithal and the expertise to record the correct statement of the victims,” the court said.

Another petitioner-lawyer, Alakh Alok Srivastava, suggested that deploying women CBI officers in the Sandeshkhali case could help the alleged victims feel more at ease and disclose the truth.

The bench left the decision to the discretion of the CBI. It directed the state to handover documents sought by the CBI from it within a week from this date.

Additionally, the court expressed dissatisfaction with the lack of compliance regarding the installation of LED street lights in certain places in Sandeshkhali, warning of contempt proceedings if not addressed.

It directed the authorities to ensure such installation and submit a compliance report on the next date of hearing on June 13.

CM slams communal BJP Mahua in SC against name display orders

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/cm-mamata-banerjee-criticizes-bjp-and-mahua-moitra-challenges-name-display-orders-in-supreme-court/articleshow/111912243.cms>

Kolkata: CM Mamata Banerjee on Sunday said the party would never join hands with the “communal forces” of BJP. She also addressed like-minded parties and invited them to join hands with her to fight “communalism”.

“As long as TMC is alive, we won’t join hands with the communal forces of BJP. This is not what we do,” Banerjee said in her Martyrs’ Day speech. “Do not complain of injustice. Instead, stand united against evil forces and communalism,” she added.

CM Banerjee’s statements coincided with TMC MP Mahua Moitra filing a PIL in the Supreme Court against UP and Uttarakhand govts’ orders asking food establishment owners along the Kanwar Yatra route to display names. Moitra has argued that this sows seeds of communal discord and affects the right to livelihood and privacy, said sources. Moitra did not respond to TOI queries.

Mayor Firhad Hakim, too, broached the issue on Sunday. “Can we ask a hawker or a shop owner to display names of their communities? Is this what the Constitution says? Bengal is safe with CM Banerjee. Now, it is a fight to save India, its values and culture,” Hakim said.

On July 18, TMC spokesperson Saket Gokhale had complained to NHRC on this issue. Gokhale had posted on X: “I’ve filed a case with NHRC against Muzaffarnagar Police for the shocking order discriminating against Muslims by asking food sellers on the Kanwar Yatra route to “display their names & names of staff members”. The logic given by SSP Muzaffarnagar is not only foolish but also shameless. He says that it is to “avoid confusion” as “yattris have dietary preferences”. A simple notification asking vendors to state whether they serve only vegetarian food or both veg & non-veg would have sufficed. What does the name of a shopkeeper or food vendor have to do with “confusion on dietary preferences”?”

We also published the following articles recently

Akhilesh slams order asking Muzaffarnagar eateries on Kanwar route to display owners’ names
Learn about the controversy surrounding Muzaffarnagar police’s order for eateries on the Kanwar Yatra route to display owners’ names. Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav criticizes the move as a ‘social crime.’ Get all the details here.[111829342](#)

UP eateries on kanwar routes display names of owners, staff on orders of district admin
Get the latest update on preparations for the kanwar yatra in Muzaffarnagar district. Shops are now displaying names of proprietors or employees to avoid confusion among yattris. Find out more about the measures taken by the administration to ensure a smooth yatra.[111845500](#)

Kanwar yatra: Uttarakhand goes UP's way, asks traders to display names Learn about the new mandate in Uttarakhand for shop owners along the kanwar yatra route to display nameplates. The directive aims to prevent law and order issues during the pilgrimage, promoting transparency and safety for all involved.111871305

Govt action against hosps for PM-JAY misuse

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/raipur/government-takes-action-against-hospitals-for-misuse-of-pm-jay/articleshow/111911379.cms>

Raipur: Chhattisgarh govt has slapped penalties on several hospitals this year for violating the rules of the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) by allegedly misusing Ayushman cards for economic gains and performing unwanted hysterectomies. This ambitious scheme provides free health services to beneficiaries.

Probes following complaints against these 48 hospitals led to penalties on 11 hospitals and the de-empanelment of one hospital. Complaints included charging extra money despite Ayushman card usage, unnecessary hospitalisation for financial gain, and illegal hysterectomies, said an official press release.

According to a health department spokesman, the private hospitals that were fined include, Jai Tulsi Multi Specialty Hospital Rajnandgaon — Rs 15,000, Shri Arogyaam Hospital—Rs 11.41 lakh and Ankur Hospital Raipur— Rs 1.40 lakh, Maa Yashoda Hospital, Gariaband —Rs 6.60 lakh, Shri Ram Hospital Jhalap, Mahasamund — Rs 11.40 lakh, Ashoka Hospital, Raipur —Rs 31.60 lakh, Omkar Hospital Bilaspur —Rs 1.82 lakh, Sai Samarth Hospital Raipur — Rs 4.25 lakh, CIMT Hospital, Raipur —Rs 11.8 lakh, Cure Hospital, Bilaspur — Rs 12.74 lakh and Sparsh Multi Specialty Hospital, Durg — Rs 24.44 lakh.

Action is pending against the 33 hospitals, which have been issued show-cause notices. TNN

We also published the following articles recently

NHRC notice to health ministry, Delhi govt over shooting at hospitalNHRC issues notices to Union health ministry, Delhi govt, and police commissioner following patient shooting in Delhi hospital. Incident underscores the importance of enhancing safety in government hospitals. Authorities requested to report on measures taken to improve security.111830486

Tonca vet hospital in decrepit state: Aldona MLADiscover the latest updates on the condition of the government veterinary hospital in Tonca, Panaji. MLA Carlos Alvares Ferreira urges action to improve facilities and services for injured stray animals in Goa. Read more about the demands for better animal care in the state.111871173

'Super spicy' crisps land Japan schoolkids in hospitalFourteen Japanese high school students hospitalized after eating super spicy 'R 18+ Curry Chips'. The chips contain ghost pepper and are not suitable for under-18s or individuals with high blood pressure. Learn more about the incident and the potential health risks associated with consuming extremely spicy snacks.111817282

Mentally challenged mother-daughter duo walks naked across two States; NHRC informed

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2024/Jul/21/mentally-challenged-mother-daughter-duo-walks-naked-across-two-states-nhrc-informed>

Following a petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer Radhakanta Tripathy, the NHRC directed the District Administrations of Sundargarh and Jashpur, to provide a report on the matter.

NEW DELHI: In a distressing case, a mentally challenged mother and daughter, lost their sense of self and walked naked from Chhattisgarh to Odisha. They reportedly did not receive any assistance from onlookers or the governments of either state.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has been informed that the mother-daughter duo from Kharibahal village in Jashpur district, Chhattisgarh, were rescued from Sundargarh town, Odisha.

They have been settled back in their native place and will receive treatment at a hospital in Ranchi.

The victims, who are originally from Odisha, alleged sexual exploitation and have been undergoing recovery at Aastha Gruha, a shelter for mentally ill women, located in Rangadhipa, Sundargarh.

Unable to endure their plight and immense pain, the mother and daughter reportedly lost their mental balance and traveled naked from Chhattisgarh to Sundargarh, without receiving help from the public or government authorities.

Following a petition filed by human rights activist and Supreme Court lawyer Radhakanta Tripathy, the NHRC directed the District Administrations of Sundargarh and Jashpur, Chhattisgarh, to provide a report on the matter.

Tripathy criticised the failure of state machinery in punishing the perpetrators and rehabilitating the victims, calling it a serious violation of human rights. He highlighted that the family's financial difficulties, exacerbated by the death of the breadwinner, contributed to their exploitation.

The NHRC was informed that on October 6, 2023, the mother and daughter were found walking naked on College Road in Sundargarh. They were rescued and taken to Aastha Gruha, Sundargarh, where they received psychiatric treatment until October 10, 2023.

According to the report, there were no signs of sexual assault or injury on the victims' bodies, though the presence of old healed hymenal tears was noted.

Tripathy requested further investigation and rehabilitation under social security schemes and in accordance with the Mental Health Care Act, 2017.

The medical officer clarified that hymenal tears could result from strenuous physical activities or medical procedures, not necessarily sexual assault. There were no signs or symptoms of sexual assault.

The Sundargarh Town Police Station staff facilitated the victims' return to their native village. Family members took them to Kharibahal and assured that they would receive better treatment at Ranchi Medical Hospital. The victims and their families have expressed no complaints against anyone involved

UGC urges law colleges, universities to conduct legal aid programmes

<https://news.careers360.com/ugc-urges-law-colleges-universities-conduct-legal-aid-programmes>

As per UGC notice, the NHRC recommended that legal awareness should be provided by law students to the most vulnerable groups and unaware people.

NEW DELHI: In a recent notice, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has urged higher education institutions (HEIs) to conduct legal aid programmes to make the common people in the country aware of their rights. The directive aims to ensure, protect and promote the human rights of all the people in the country.

As per UGC notice, the NHRC, mandated under the Protection of Human Rights Act of 1993, conducted an open house discussion focused on "Access to Legal Aid to Victims." During the discussion, a recommendation emerged emphasizing the need for more effective legal aid programmes within universities and law colleges.

NHRC's recommendation on legal aid programmes

The NHRC suggested that the legal aid programmes should be survey-oriented and that legal awareness should be imparted to the masses by law students. The goal is to ensure that legal aid reaches the most vulnerable groups and those who lack awareness of their legal rights. "Legal aid programmes in the universities, law colleges should be survey-oriented and legal awareness should be impacted by law students to the masses. Legal aid should be provided by students to the most vulnerable groups and unaware people", read the notice. The UGC has called on all higher education institutions to take necessary and appropriate actions to align with the NHRC's recommendations.

UGC, NLU Delhi hosted colloquium on new criminal laws

On July 8, the UGC and National Law University (NLU), Delhi hosted a colloquium titled "New Criminal Laws: A Vision for Justice and Rule of Law." According to Live Law report, the panelists explored the future of criminal justice and the rule of law, highlighting pathways for advancing legal frameworks to ensure justice and uphold legal principles. The event included three panel discussions focusing on the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam.

श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय ने राज्य सरकारों की रिपोर्ट NHRC को भेजी, Amazon के श्रमिकों का भी जिक्र

https://www.suchnaji.com/labor-and-employment-ministry-sent-report-of-state-governments-to-nhrc-amazon-workers-also-mentioned/#google_vignette

सूचनाजी न्यूज, दिल्ली। श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय (Labor and Employment Ministry) ने फॉक्सकॉन द्वारा विवाहित महिलाओं के साथ भेदभाव के मामले में तमिलनाडु सरकार के श्रम विभाग से प्राप्त रिपोर्ट राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) के पास भेज दी है।

एक अलग सूचना में, मंत्रालय ने एनएचआरसी को अमेज़न के गोदाम में श्रमिकों की समस्याओं के संबंध में हरियाणा सरकार की विस्तृत रिपोर्ट भी भेजी है।

रिपोर्ट में अमेज़न द्वारा श्रम कानूनों के कुछ प्रावधानों के उल्लंघन का जिक्र किया गया है और बताया गया है कि राज्य सरकार ने संबंधित श्रम कानूनों के प्रावधानों के अनुसार कानूनी कार्रवाई शुरू की है।