

NHRC seeks status report on 'Adopted Villages'

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
BALASORE, 25 AUGUST:

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued notice to the Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, and the Chief Secretary, Odisha on the status of Adopted Villages in Odisha.

Acting on a petition filed by Human Rights Activist and Lawyer Radhakanta Tripathy highlighting the basic amenities and bare necessities pertaining to the villages adopted on record, the apex Human Rights Panel sought for a detailed reply and asked the authorities to ensure the needful action on the issues raised by the petitioner. It

sought a detailed action taken report within eight weeks.

The petitioner contended that the basic human rights of the adopted villagers like the poor Scheduled Tribe villagers living in Jalanga village in Bhadrak district and other villages under 'Samagra Gramin Vikas Yojana' by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have been leading a miserable life.

The RBI governor, D Subbarao, had launched a financial outreach programme on December 3, 2009 in the village. The UCO Bank had adopted Jalanga village, to transform it into a model village under 'Samagra Gramin Vikas Yojana'. Governor of



RBI, heard grievances of people during his visit to Jalanga Village in February, 2013. However, there is no visible improvement in the quality of life in the adopted villages, alleged the petitioner.

Similar is the fate of the villages adopted by the MPs, MLAs and Corporate under the CSR Activities. Tripathy pointed out that the reply received under the RTI Act from the RBI about five villages namely Jalanga, Chandipur,

Pokatinga, Chhatabara, Bhedabahal of Odisha. There is no discernible improvement in the villages even after 14 years, stated Tripathy.

Tripathy requested the NHRC to seek a comprehensive data base on the Adopted Villages in Odisha and all other States and Union Territories of India and make a study on the development of the villages so far as bare necessities of life and amenities and improvement of health, education, employment and other parameters.

No comprehensive data base regarding the adopted villages in India has been prepared by the Ministry of Rural Development, Govern-

ment of India. It is believed that more than 10,000 villages have been adopted by various Institutions, MPs and MLAs. Mere adoption of records, spending money with the nexus of corrupt persons in the name of poverty and backwardness further worsens the condition of life of the adopted villagers and weakens their belief system in the democratic set-up, Tripathy alleged.

Periodic, systematic assessment and evaluation of the living condition and quality of life with happiness index of the villagers of Adopted villages should be given utmost importance, he contended.

The rise and rise of red sanders mafia

Andhra Pradesh's Seshachalam Hills, one of India's richest biospheres, has become the hotspot of red sanders smuggling and allied crimes, costing many police, forest officials and mafia members their lives, apart from threatening the survival of the endangered tree species. Over the years, despite changes in governments and people in power, the smuggling of the precious wood continues unabated, writes **K. Umashankar**



Blood wood: A batch of red sanders logs freshly cut and dressed from Seshachalam Hills. The wood contains a compound called Santalin, which gives it the rich red colour. Seshachalam Hills of the Eastern Ghats is one of the few places on earth where the tree grows. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Timings

MUMBAI

MONDAY, AUG. 26

RISE 06:22 SET 18:58
RISE 00:00 SET 12:52

TUESDAY, AUG. 27

RISE 06:23 SET 18:57
RISE 00:04 SET 12:55

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 28

RISE 06:23 SET 18:56
RISE 00:08 SET 12:54

Mumbai Weather max min

Mumbai Airport 30 24
Puna 27 21
Mumbai City 30 24

Mumbai Today
29°C The intermittent spells of moderate to heavy rain and thunderstorms with gusty winds will occur.

Mumbai Tomorrow
29°C The weather will be slight warm. Spell of moderate to heavy rain and thundershower is likely to occur.

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Seshachalam Hills, one of India's richest biospheres which form the tip of the Eastern Ghats in Andhra Pradesh is considered a floristic hotspot for it houses many endemic and rare species including five gecko species, 12 species of lizards and 22 species of snakes.

However, it is red sanders (*Pterocarpus santalinus*), the tall trees which give one of the world's finest and rarest woods, growing in these hills which makes Seshachalam a hotspot of crime and a hub of mafia.

"It was in 1974 when my firstborn saw the light. Transporting a truckload of red sanders logs from Piler of the Anamayya district to the erstwhile Madras used to cost ₹270 a round trip, which included labour force and bribes at the local level and the inter-State border check posts," recalls a 76-year-old carpenter from a remote village of Yeravipalem mandal of Tirupati district in Andhra Pradesh.

"For a ton of logs, the price would be around ₹2,000. For each trip, I used to save around ₹1,000 plus at the rate of four trips a month. Like me, there were about a dozen people all over the Seshachalam hills," he adds.

Up to ₹2 crore a tonne
Today, the statistics of the red sanders logs are sold at anywhere between ₹1 crore to ₹2 crore per tonne, based on the quality, in the international market.

Spread over 5,000 square kilometres across Kadapa, Annamayya, Tirupati and Chittoor districts, besides covering substantial forest cover in Nellore district in the State, the Seshachalam Hills is the first biosphere reserve in Andhra Pradesh identified under UNESCO's Man and Biosphere programme in 2010.

The rich growth of red sanders here, however, began only after 1983 when the Forest Department, following the orders of then Chief Minister of undivided Andhra Pradesh, N.T. Rama Rao took up a massive afforestation programme in the region. Red sanders seeds were sprayed over the Rayalaseema region through helicopters. However, the seed germination at Seshachalam was the best owing to the hot and dry conditions which is the ideal climate for the trees to thrive.

From the 1980s onwards, the red sanders started attracting the international market, with major players coming from China.

A retired forest ranger recalled the different phases of red sander smuggling. "What began as a cottage industry is now a multi-crore global business. A few individuals used to sell the red sanders logs in small quantum in erstwhile Madras, intended for making toys and transportation to China and South-east Asian countries. From the 1990s onwards, the Chinese wanted huge quantities of the wood. Some mid-

dlemen in the timber industry in Tamil Nadu caught the pulse of the demand," he said.

When there was a massive manhunt for forest brigand Veerappan in the thick forests of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Kerala between 1990-2000, a large number of woodcutters who worked under him were left with no alternative source of livelihood. Now, these 'mestries' (organisers) from the north-western districts of Tamil Nadu lured the jobless youth to raid the Seshachalam ranges. The precious trees, which were coupisely present, were ruthlessly cut down and transported to Madras and Tuticorin ports. Those were the days when the officials, both from the Central and State governments, were not much aware of the red sanders.

During the time of Veerappan, it was only the white sandalwood that mattered. Between 2004 and 2014, the number of trespassers into the Seshachalam ranges from Tamil Nadu used to be a few hundred per day. The forest and police officials and also the media used to call the trespassers "woodcutters and coolies."

Skilled Malai men from Tamil Nadu
Later, the trespassers were promoted to the ranks of "red sanders smugglers." Each woodcutter used to get ₹5,000 per log weighing around 50 kg. Most of these debt-ridden and impoverished men belonged to the Malai hill tribes inhabiting the forest regions of Tiruvannamalai, Salem, Dharmapuri and Villupuram districts of Tamil Nadu. They are illiterate and begin to work for red sanders smugglers from the age of 20.

The Malai men are preferred by the smugglers for the job as they are adapted to the Seshachalam hills and can jump and sprint fast in case of a police raid. The Task Force police have many times said that they were awestruck at the agility of these men, and that capturing

them was not an easy task.

The Malai men are also resilient and can sustain for days with little food and liquor, making them the ideal smugglers of precious wood.

The so-called organisers started deploying the maximum number of workforce from Tamil Nadu districts, transporting them in specially arranged buses and also sending them in passenger trains.

They would alight at Panapakam, Munglipattu, and Chandragiri railway stations in Tirupati district and clandestinely enter the forest. Previously, they used to carry axes and saw blades with them, but later they were readily supplied with the tools on their arrival.

With time, the workforce enjoyed extra benefits such as liquor bottles and provisions to cook inside the forests during their long stays, ranging from two to three weeks. "Their modus operandi was to cut down as many trees as possible, dress the logs and carry them to the road points. Vehicles from autos to trucks and lorries chugged the forest paths to collect the material and transport it to Chennai. With a sudden spur in the activity, warehouses had come up in Hoskote and Katiganihalli area of Bengaluru rural district," says another forest official in Sri Venkateswara National Park range.

Interestingly, during all the turbulent years of red sanders smuggling from the Seshachalam ranges, three Ministers who held the portfolio of the Forests were from the undivided Chittoor district—Gali Muddukrishnama Naidu from Puttur, Bojjala Golapalakhishna Reddy from Sri Kalahasti and Peddiredi Ramachandra Reddy from Piler and later shifting to Punganur.

From 1995, the Chief Ministers of the undivided Andhra Pradesh were also from the red sanders-rich districts. Nara Chandrababu Naidu from Chandragiri (his native place in Tirupati district), Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy from Kadapa district, Nallari Kiran Kumar Reddy from Piler in Anamayya district and Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy from Kadapa district.

Blood shed over red wood
On December 15, 2013, two forest officials of Tirupati Wildlife Circle—Deputy Range Officer Srihar and Assistant Beat Officer David Kumar—were surrounded by a mob of 200 woodcutters deep inside the Seshachalam forests close to Tumbaru Theertham waterbody on the Chittoor Kadapa border. The duo was brutally done to death with stones and axes, while another beat officer escaped with critical injuries.

Following this, the Andhra Pradesh government (after bifurcation) formed the AP Red Sanders Anti-Smuggling Task Force (APRASATF) to give protection to forest officials while on patrol in the forests. It was this Task Force, which played a crucial role in nabbing Kollam Gangi Reddy, who faced allegations of red sanders smuggling and was one of the accused in the Alipiri bomb blast case of 2003 wherein Nara Chandrababu Naidu had a narrow escape. The then Task Force chief, M. Kantha Rao, a senior IPS officer who worked as the DIG and IC of the Task Force (2014-2019), had detected that Gangi Reddy had two passports.

Kantha Rao said that during his tenure, hundreds of red sanders smuggling operatives were nabbed and re-manded. "About half a dozen special teams were formed to conduct patrolling not only in Tirupati but all over the Rayalaseema districts, Nellore and Prakasam. In 2015, the Task Force made a stupendous breakthrough when a team rushed to Assam and prevented a 10-tonne consignment of red sanders logs from entering China. The goods were brought back to Tirupati. We had also made the information about red sanders public as to how many trees were cut down over years and how many trees were left the forests," he says.

On April 7, 2015, as many as 20

woodcutters from Tamil Nadu, originally migrants from Wayanad in Kerala, were reportedly gunned down by the Task Force at Sachinodi Banda (loosely translates to a boulder that belonged to the dead) point located deep inside the inhospitable terrain of Seshachalam hills near Tirupati. The human rights groups then alleged that the woodcutters, all belonging to the Dalit community, were brutally shot at from point-blank range and their bodies were strewn all over the forest location. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) also registered a case on this.

Ever since this "carnage" of woodcutters, there has not occurred even a single casualty in the entire red sanders-rich region in the last nine years. After a lull of a few months, the woodcutters resumed invading the forest ranges.

"During these nine years, hundreds of trespassers were arrested and released on bail. Cutting red sanders has only turned into a picnic, coupled with economic benefit. The forest and police officials to date are afraid of even causing a minor injury to a woodcutter. Chases have almost disappeared. The trespassers are not afraid of arrests. After all, they know they would be convicted at the most for six months to one year if charges get proved against them - which is very difficult to establish," said a police officer, who played a crucial role in undertaking a dozen inter-State operations in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and close to Bhutan border, and seizure of red sanders logs worth about ₹1,000 crore between 2014-2017.

There are critical observations that after the Jagan Mohan Reddy government came to power in 2019, the subject of red sanders smuggling slipped into oblivion. Allegations remained rife that the Task Force could not undertake a single inter-State operation during the period.

"Unlike the period before the COVID-19 pandemic where 90% of the workforce was from Tamil Nadu districts, in recent years the locals of various villages of Rayalaseema districts have turned into smuggling operatives. Political leaders from top to bottom levels are facing serious allegations of their involvement in the red sanders smuggling. The cooperation and coordination between the forest and police departments have also been missed in the last decade. Due to the absence of any scientific mode of surveillance at the check posts, we don't know what is happening there. In the last five years, there was not a single meeting of the inter-State police and forest officials to tackle the red sanders issue," observed a retired police officer in Tirupati.

Pushpa impact
When Allu Arjun-starrer *Pushpa - The Rise* was released in December 2021, after the Covid pandemic, it was a mad rush at the theatres.

"Pushpa" director Sukumar and his team visited our office (in Tirupati) during the planning of the film. We took them to various locations in the Seshachalam and shared information about the modules and modus operandi of the smugglers, the aspects of interrogation and investigation. The movie could create a sea of awareness about the bad element in red sanders smuggling," said former Task Force chief Kantha Rao.

Ironically, a majority of the officials in the enforcement agencies observed that *Pushpa* had directly contributed to the entry of more youth into the contraband forest trade. Several youths involved in the red sanders errands started growing their beard leaving their hair unkempt and repeating the verbal and physical mannerisms of the hero, which included the hero's walking style which went viral on social media.

In this context, the recent observation of Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan (who also holds the portfolio of Forests) that "Around 40 years ago, a hero was someone who safeguards the forest. And now, the hero is someone who cuts away the forest and is a smuggler," has raised many an eyebrow.



NATIONAL HUMAN
RIGHTS COMMISSION

HC stays NHRC order against Delhi Police

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has stayed a NHRC order directing the Delhi Police to pay Rs 5 lakh compensation to the kin of a person, who allegedly committed suicide in its custody. Justice Sanjeev Narula sought the response of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), through its secretary, on a plea by the Delhi Police challenging the April 19 order of the commission and listed the matter for further hearing on Oct 24.

मुआवजे के आदेश पर हाईकोर्ट ने रोक लगाई

<https://www.livehindustan.com/ncr/new-delhi/story-delhi-high-court-halts-nhrc-compensation-order-in-police-custody-suicide-case-201724583224406.html>

अदालत से वर्ष 2019 में एक शख्स ने पुलिस स्टेशन में आत्महत्या कर ली थी

Sun, 25 Aug 2024 04:23 PM

नई दिल्ली, वरिष्ठ संवाददाता। दिल्ली हाईकोर्ट ने पुलिस हिरासत में कथित तौर पर आत्महत्या करने वाले एक व्यक्ति के परिजनों को पांच लाख रुपये मुआवजा देने के एनएचआरसी के निर्देश पर रोक लगा दी है। न्यायमूर्ति संजीव नरूला की पीठ ने आयोग के 19 अप्रैल के आदेश को चुनौती देने वाली दिल्ली पुलिस की याचिका पर अपने सचिव के माध्यम से राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) से जवाब मांगा। मामले में अगली सुनवाई 24 अक्टूबर को होगी। पीठ ने अपने आदेश में कहा कि एनएचआरसी का आदेश राशिद रजा की मौत से संबंधित है। उसे दिसंबर 2019 में नरेला औद्योगिक क्षेत्र के पुलिस स्टेशन के ग्राउंड फ्लोर पर एक कमरे में लटका हुआ पाया गया था। एनएचआरसी के आदेश में कहा गया है कि राशिद पुलिस हिरासत में था और किसी भी नुकसान को रोकने की जिम्मेदारी पुलिस की थी। इसमें कहा गया कि पुलिस अगर सतर्क होती तो आत्महत्या को रोका जा सकता था। पुलिस ने एनएचआरसी के आदेश पर एकपक्षीय और अंतरिम रोक लगाने की मांग की। पुलिस की ओर से वकील प्रशांत मनचंदा ने दलील दी कि रजा अपनी पत्नी के शव के बारे में पूछताछ करने के लिए बिना किसी पूर्व सूचना के पुलिस स्टेशन पहुंचे थे। अदालत ने कहा कि रजा द्वारा अपने फोन नंबर से अपने भाई को भेजी गई ऑडियो रिकॉर्डिंग की प्रतिलेख से प्रथम दृष्टया संकेत मिलता है कि उसने आत्महत्या की है। अदालत ने मनचंदा द्वारा प्रस्तुत लैपटॉप पर सीसीटीवी फुटेज देखा है। इससे यह साफ होता है कि घटना के समय मृतक कमरे में अकेला था। ऐसी परिस्थितियों में पुलिस को प्रथम दृष्टया राशिद रजा की दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण मौत को रोकने का मौका नहीं मिल सकता था।

दिल्ली पुलिस की कस्टडी में सुसाइड, NHRC के मुआवजा देने के आदेश पर HC की रोक

https://www.livehindustan.com/amp_ncr/

दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट ने एनएचआरसी के उस आदेश पर रोक लगा दी है, जिसमें दिल्ली पुलिस को उसकी हिरासत में कथित तौर पर आत्महत्या करने वाले एक व्यक्ति के परिजनों को 5 लाख रुपये का मुआवजा देने का निर्देश दिया गया था।

Sun, 25 Aug 2024, 04:24:PM

अगला लेख

दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट ने दिल्ली पुलिस की हिरासत में हुई एक व्यक्ति की मौत के मामले में राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) के आदेश पर रोक लगा दी है। हाई कोर्ट ने एनएचआरसी के उस आदेश पर रोक लगा दी है, जिसमें दिल्ली पुलिस को उसकी हिरासत में कथित तौर पर आत्महत्या करने वाले एक व्यक्ति के परिजनों को 5 लाख रुपये का मुआवजा देने का निर्देश दिया गया था।

जस्टिस संजीव नरूला ने एनएचआरसी के 19 अप्रैल के आदेश को चुनौती देने वाली दिल्ली पुलिस की याचिका पर आयोग से जवाब मांगा और मामले को 24 अक्टूबर को सुनवाई के लिए सूचीबद्ध किया। कोर्ट ने कहा कि याचिकाकर्ता द्वारा दी गई दलीलों पर विचार की आवश्यकता होगी। इसलिए सुनवाई की अगली तारीख तक एनएचआरसी द्वारा पारित 19 अप्रैल, 2024 के आदेश पर रोक रहेगी। कोर्ट ने कहा कि एनएचआरसी का आदेश राशिद रजा की मौत से संबंधित है। राशिद रजा दिसंबर 2019 में नरेला औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में एक थाने के भूतल पर बने कमरे में लटका हुआ पाया गया था।

एनएचआरसी के आदेश में कहा गया है कि मृतक पुलिस हिरासत में था। उसके किसी भी नुकसान को रोकने की जिम्मेदारी पुलिस की थी। अगर वे सतर्क होते तो आत्महत्या को रोका जा सकता था। पुलिस ने एनएचआरसी के आदेश पर एकपक्षीय और अंतरिम रोक लगाने की मांग की, जिसमें दिल्ली पुलिस आयुक्त को रजा के परिजनों को मुआवजे के रूप में 5 लाख रुपये देने की सिफारिश की गई थी।

पुलिस की ओर से कर्ट में पेश वकील प्रशांत मनचंदा ने दलील दी कि रजा अपनी पत्नी के शव के बारे में पूछताछ करने के लिए बिना किसी पूर्व सूचना के थाना गए थे। कोर्ट ने कहा कि मृतक द्वारा अपने फोन नंबर से अपने भाई को भेजी गई ऑडियो रिकॉर्डिंग से प्रथम दृष्टया संकेत मिलता है कि उसने आत्महत्या की है।

इसके अलावा कोर्ट ने मनचंदा द्वारा पेश लैपटॉप पर सीसीटीवी फुटेज देखा है। सीसीटीवी फुटेज से पता चलता है कि मृतक थाने में 'संक्रमण कक्ष' में था। कोर्ट ने कहा कि यह देखा जा सकता है कि निश्चित टाइमस्टैम्प पर कमरे में मौजूद व्यक्ति गलियारे में बाहर चला गया, जिसके बाद दरवाजा बंद हो गया।

इससे पता चलता है कि मृतक उस समय कमरे में अकेला रहा होगा। ऐसी परिस्थितियों में पुलिस को राशिद रजा की दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण मौत को रोकने का मौका नहीं मिल सका।

दिल्ली पुलिस की कस्टडी में सुसाइड, NHRC के मुआवजा देने के आदेश पर HC की रोक

<https://www.msn.com/hi-in/news/other/%E0%A4%A6-%E0%A4%B2%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%B2-%E0%A4%AA%E0%A5%81%E0%A4%B2-%E0%A4%B8-%E0%A4%95-%E0%A4%95%E0%A4%B8%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%9F%E0%A4%A1-%E0%A4%AE%E0%A5%87%E0%A4%82-%E0%A4%B8%E0%A5%81%E0%A4%B8-%E0%A4%87%E0%A4%A1-nhrc-%E0%A4%95%E0%A5%87-%E0%A4%AE%E0%A5%81%E0%A4%86%E0%A4%B5%E0%A4%9C-%E0%A4%A6%E0%A5%87%E0%A4%A8%E0%A5%87-%E0%A4%95%E0%A5%87-%E0%A4%86%E0%A4%A6%E0%A5%87%E0%A4%B6-%E0%A4%AA%E0%A4%B0-hc-%E0%A4%95-%E0%A4%B0-%E0%A4%95/ar-AA1poHX5>

पीटीआई के द्वारा स्टोरी

- 14घंटे • 2 मिनट पढ़ा गया

दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट ने दिल्ली पुलिस की हिरासत में हुई एक व्यक्ति की मौत के मामले में राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) के आदेश पर रोक लगा दी है। हाई कोर्ट ने एनएचआरसी के उस आदेश पर रोक लगा दी है, जिसमें दिल्ली पुलिस को उसकी हिरासत में कथित तौर पर आत्महत्या करने वाले एक व्यक्ति के परिजनों को 5 लाख रुपये का मुआवजा देने का निर्देश दिया गया था।

जस्टिस संजीव नरूला ने एनएचआरसी के 19 अप्रैल के आदेश को चुनौती देने वाली दिल्ली पुलिस की याचिका पर आयोग से जवाब मांगा और मामले को 24 अक्टूबर को सुनवाई के लिए सूचीबद्ध किया। कोर्ट ने कहा कि याचिकाकर्ता द्वारा दी गई दलीलों पर विचार की आवश्यकता होगी। इसलिए सुनवाई की अगली तारीख तक एनएचआरसी द्वारा पारित 19 अप्रैल, 2024 के आदेश पर रोक रहेगी। कोर्ट ने कहा कि एनएचआरसी का आदेश राशिद रजा की मौत से संबंधित है। राशिद रजा दिसंबर 2019 में नरेला औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में एक थाने के भूतल पर बने कमरे में लटका हुआ पाया गया था।

एनएचआरसी के आदेश में कहा गया है कि मृतक पुलिस हिरासत में था। उसके किसी भी नुकसान को रोकने की जिम्मेदारी पुलिस की थी। अगर वे सतर्क होते तो आत्महत्या को रोका जा सकता था। पुलिस ने एनएचआरसी के आदेश पर एकपक्षीय और अंतरिम रोक लगाने की मांग की, जिसमें दिल्ली पुलिस आयुक्त को रजा के परिजनों को मुआवजे के रूप में 5 लाख रुपये देने की सिफारिश की गई थी।

पुलिस की ओर से कर्ट में पेश वकील प्रशांत मनचंदा ने दलील दी कि रजा अपनी पत्नी के शव के बारे में पूछताछ करने के लिए बिना किसी पूर्व सूचना के थाना गए थे। कोर्ट ने कहा कि मृतक द्वारा अपने फोन नंबर से अपने भाई को भेजी गई ऑडियो रिकॉर्डिंग से प्रथम दृष्टया संकेत मिलता है कि उसने आत्महत्या की है।

इसके अलावा कोर्ट ने मनचंदा द्वारा पेश लैपटॉप पर सीसीटीवी फुटेज देखा है। सीसीटीवी फुटेज से पता चलता है कि मृतक थाने में 'संक्रमण कक्ष' में था। कोर्ट ने कहा कि यह देखा जा सकता है कि निश्चित टाइमस्टैम्प पर कमरे में मौजूद व्यक्ति गलियारे में बाहर चला गया, जिसके बाद दरवाजा बंद हो गया। इससे पता चलता है कि मृतक उस समय कमरे में अकेला रहा होगा। ऐसी परिस्थितियों में पुलिस को राशिद रजा की दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण मौत को रोकने का मौका नहीं मिल सका।

दिल्ली: आत्महत्या के मामले में पांच लाख रुपये मुआवजे के एनएचआरसी आदेश पर अदालत ने लगाई रोक

<https://hindi.theprint.in/india/delhi-court-stays-nhrc-order-of-rs-5-lakh-compensation-in-suicide-case/722769/?amp>

भाषा 25 August, 2024

नयी दिल्ली, 25 अगस्त (भाषा) दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय ने राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) के उस आदेश पर रोक लगा दी है जिसमें दिल्ली पुलिस को हिरासत में कथित तौर पर आत्महत्या करने वाले एक व्यक्ति के परिजनों को पांच लाख रुपये का मुआवजा देने का निर्देश दिया गया था।

न्यायमूर्ति संजीव नरुला ने दिल्ली पुलिस की ओर से राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) के 19 अप्रैल के आदेश को चुनौती देने वाली याचिका पर आयोग के सचिव के माध्यम से प्रतिक्रिया मांगी और मामले की अगली सुनवाई 24 अक्टूबर को निर्धारित की।

अदालत ने कहा, 'याचिकाकर्ता (पुलिस) द्वारा दी गई दलीलों पर विचार करने की आवश्यकता है। इसके मद्देनजर सुनवाई की अगली तारीख तक एनएचआरसी के 19 अप्रैल, 2024 के आदेश पर रोक लगाई जाती है।'

अदालत ने कहा कि एनएचआरसी का आदेश राशिद रजा की मौत से संबंधित है, जो दिसंबर 2019 में नरेला औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में एक थाने के एक कमरे में फंदे से लटका हुआ मिला था।

एनएचआरसी के आदेश में कहा गया था कि पीड़ित पुलिस हिरासत में था और किसी भी तरह की घटना को रोकना पुलिस की जिम्मेदारी थी। अगर वे सतर्क होते तो आत्महत्या को रोका जा सकता था।

पुलिस ने एनएचआरसी के आदेश पर एकपक्षीय अंतरिम रोक लगाने की मांग की थी।

आयोग के आदेश में दिल्ली पुलिस आयुक्त को रजा के परिजनों को पांच लाख रुपये का मुआवजा देने की सिफारिश की गई थी।

दिल्ली पुलिस की कस्टडी में सुसाइड, NHRC के मुआवजा देने के आदेश पर HC की रोक

<https://www.livehindustan.com/ncr/high-court-stays-nhrc-order-asking-delhi-police-to-compensate-for-death-in-custody-201724582733034.html>

दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट ने एनएचआरसी के उस आदेश पर रोक लगा दी है, जिसमें दिल्ली पुलिस को उसकी हिरासत में कथित तौर पर आत्महत्या करने वाले एक व्यक्ति के परिजनों को 5 लाख रुपये का मुआवजा देने का निर्देश दिया गया था।

Sun, 25 Aug 2024 04:24 PM

दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट ने दिल्ली पुलिस की हिरासत में हुई एक व्यक्ति की मौत के मामले में राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) के आदेश पर रोक लगा दी है। हाई कोर्ट ने एनएचआरसी के उस आदेश पर रोक लगा दी है, जिसमें दिल्ली पुलिस को उसकी हिरासत में कथित तौर पर आत्महत्या करने वाले एक व्यक्ति के परिजनों को 5 लाख रुपये का मुआवजा देने का निर्देश दिया गया था।

जस्टिस संजीव नरूला ने एनएचआरसी के 19 अप्रैल के आदेश को चुनौती देने वाली दिल्ली पुलिस की याचिका पर आयोग से जवाब मांगा और मामले को 24 अक्टूबर को सुनवाई के लिए सूचीबद्ध किया। कोर्ट ने कहा कि पाचिकाकर्ता द्वारा दी गई दलीलों पर विचार की आवश्यकता होगी। इसलिए सुनवाई की अगली तारीख तक एनएचआरसी द्वारा पारित 19 अप्रैल, 2024 के आदेश पर रोक रहेगी। कोर्ट ने कहा कि एनएचआरसी का आदेश राशिद रजा की मौत से संबंधित है। राशिद रजा दिसंबर 2019 में नरेला औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में एक थाने के भूतल पर बने कमरे में लटका हुआ पाया गया था।

एनएचआरसी के आदेश में कहा गया है कि मृतक पुलिस हिरासत में था। उसके किसी भी नुकसान को रोकने की जिम्मेदारी पुलिस की थी। अगर वे सतर्क होते तो आत्महत्या को रोका जा सकता था। पुलिस ने एनएचआरसी के आदेश पर एकपक्षीय और अंतरिम रोक लगाने की मांग की, जिसमें दिल्ली पुलिस आयुक्त को रजा के परिजनों को मुआवजे के रूप में 5 लाख रुपये देने की सिफारिश की गई थी।

पुलिस की ओर से कर्ट में पेश वकील प्रशांत मनचंदा ने दलील दी कि रजा अपनी पत्नी के शव के बारे में पूछताछ करने के लिए बिना किसी पूर्व सूचना के थाना गए थे। कोर्ट ने कहा कि मृतक द्वारा अपने फोन नंबर से अपने भाई को भेजी गई ऑडियो रिकॉर्डिंग से प्रथम दृष्टया संकेत मिलता है कि उसने आत्महत्या की है।

इसके अलावा कोर्ट ने मनचंदा द्वारा पेश लैपटॉप पर सीसीटीवी फुटेज देखा है। सीसीटीवी फुटेज से पता चलता है कि मृतक थाने में संक्रमण कक्ष में था। कोर्ट ने कहा कि यह देखा जा सकता है कि निश्चित टाइमस्टैम्प पर कमरे में मौजूद व्यक्ति गलियारे में बाहर चला गया, जिसके बाद दरवाजा बंद हो गया। इससे पता चलता है कि मृतक उस समय कमरे में अकेला रहा होगा। ऐसी परिस्थितियों में पुलिस को राशिद रजा की दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण मौत को रोकने का मौका नहीं मिल सका।

Delhi HC Stays NHRC Order on Custody Suicide Compensation

<https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/law-order/3063451-delhi-hc-stays-nhrc-order-on-custody-suicide-compensation>

The Delhi High Court has stayed an NHRC directive ordering the Delhi Police to pay Rs 5 lakh to the family of Rashid Raza, who allegedly committed suicide in police custody. The police contested the April 19 order, arguing that Raza's death could not have been prevented given the circumstances.

[Devdiscourse News Desk](#) | New Delhi | Updated: 25-08-2024 15:16 IST | Created: 25-08-2024 15:16 IST

The Delhi High Court has halted an NHRC order that directed the Delhi Police to compensate the family of Rashid Raza, who reportedly committed suicide while in custody, with Rs 5 lakh. Justice Sanjeev Narula has called for the NHRC to respond to the police's challenge against the commission's April 19 decision, setting the next hearing for October 24.

The court observed that the police's arguments warrant further examination. Consequently, the NHRC's order, dated April 19, 2023, will be stayed until the next hearing. The case involves the death of Rashid Raza, who was found hanging in a police station room in December 2019.

The NHRC claimed that police negligence led to Raza's death, but the police countered that Raza came to the station without notice to inquire about his wife's death. Evidence from audio recordings and CCTV footage suggests that Raza could have been alone in the room, challenging the notion that the police could have intervened to prevent his death.

HC stays NHRC order asking Delhi Police to compensate kin of man who ended life in custody

<https://www.telegraphindia.com/india/high-court-stays-national-human-rights-commission-order-asking-delhi-police-to-compensate-kin-of-man-who-ended-life-in-custody/cid/2043463>

The court noted that the transcript of the audio recording sent by the deceased from his phone number to his brother, prima facie indicated that he committed suicide

PTI New Delhi Published 25.08.24, 07:44 PM

The Delhi High Court has stayed an NHRC order directing the Delhi Police to pay Rs 5 lakh compensation to the kin of a person, who allegedly committed suicide in its custody.

Justice Sanjeev Narula sought the response of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), through its secretary, on a plea by the Delhi Police challenging the April 19 order of the commission and listed the matter for further hearing on October 24.

"Contentions advanced by petitioner (police) would require consideration. In light of the above, till the next date of hearing, the impugned order dated April 19, 2024, passed by respondent no. 1 (NHRC) shall remain stayed," the court said.

The court noted that the NHRC order concerns the death of Rashid Raza, who was found hanging in a room on the ground floor of a police station in Narela Industrial Area in December 2019.

The NHRC order stated that the deceased was in police custody and it was the responsibility of the police to prevent any harm. Had they been vigilant, the suicide could have been prevented, it said.

The police sought an ex-parte ad-interim stay of the NHRC order which recommended to the Delhi Police commissioner to pay Rs 5 lakh as monetary compensation to the next of kin of Raza.

Additional Standing Counsel Prashant Manchanda, representing the police, contended that Raza had visited the police station unannounced and without prior notice to inquire about his wife's body.

The court noted that the transcript of the audio recording sent by the deceased from his phone number to his brother, prima facie indicated that he committed suicide.

"Furthermore, the CCTV footage has been viewed by the court on the laptop presented by Manchanda. The CCTV footage seemingly shows that the deceased was in the 'Sankraman Kaksh' at the police station," it said.

The court said it could be seen that at certain timestamps, the individual in the room stepped out into the corridor, after which the door closed, as indicated by the cessation of light coming from the room into the corridor.

"This suggested that the deceased might have been alone in the room at that time. In such circumstances the police prima facie could not have had a chance to prevent the unfortunate demise of Rashid Raza," it said.

Odisha: NHRC issues notice on plight of 'adopted villages' residents

<https://odishatv.in/news/national/odisha-nhrc-issues-notice-on-plight-of-adopted-villages-residents-242502>

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued notices to the Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, and the Chief Secretary of Odisha regarding the dire conditions in 'adopted villages'.

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The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued notices to the Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, and the Chief Secretary of Odisha seeking detailed responses on the plight of the residents of villages adopted by different agencies like Public Sector Banks, MPs and MLAs in Odisha, as well as other parts of the country.

The apex rights body has sought the reply while acting on a petition filed by Human Rights Activist and Lawyer Radhakanta Tripathy who drew the attention of the NHRC about the lack of basic amenities and bare necessities in the villages adopted on record by various organs of democracy and institutions in India.

The concerned authorities have been asked by the commission to submit their replies within eight weeks of the receipt of the notice.

Tripathy in his plea alleged that the villagers like the poor Scheduled Tribe residents living in Jalanga village in Bhadrak district and other villages of Odisha as well as in other parts of India, adopted under 'Samagra Gramin Vikas Yojana' by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), have been leading a miserable life.

“The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor, D Subbarao, had launched a financial outreach programme on December 3, 2009 in the village. The UCO Bank had adopted Jalanga village, to transform it into a model village under the 'Samagra Gramin Vikas Yojana'. Again, the Governor of RBI, D Subbarao heard grievances against UCO Bank during his visit to Jalanga Village in February 2013. However, there is no visible improvement in the quality of life in the adopted villages of the RBI,” said Tripathy.

He further asserted that the villages adopted by the MPs, MLAs and corporates under the CSR Activities have been experiencing similar human rights issues as well.

Tripathy claimed that to date the five villages (Jalanga, Chandipur, Pokatunga, Chhatabara, Bhedabahal of Odisha) which have been adopted by the RBI under 'Samagra Gramin Vikas Yojna' did not reveal any improvement in the villages even after fourteen years of their adoption.

He requested the commission to seek a comprehensive database on the 'Adopted Villages' in Odisha, other states and Union Territories of India and make a study on the development of the villagers so far as bare necessities of life and basic amenities and improvement of health, education, employment and other parameters of human life are concerned.

No comprehensive database regarding the adopted villages in India has been prepared by the Ministry of Rural Development. It is believed that more than 10,000 villages have been adopted by various Institutions, MPs and MLAs in India.

"Mere adoption of records, spending money with the nexus of corrupt persons in the name of poverty and backwardness further worsens the condition of life of the adopted villagers and weakens their belief system in the democratic set-up," Tripathy adds.

Periodic, systematic assessment and evaluation of the living conditions and quality of life with happiness index of the villagers of Adopted villagers should be given utmost importance, Tripathy said.