

NHRC takes note of reported incidents of food poisoning

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India took suo moto cognisance of the media reports, carried on Aug 19 and 21, about the two alleged incidents of food poisoning causing serious health problems in Andhra Pradesh. In one incident, reportedly, the health of 70 students was seriously affected due to food poisoning at Chittoor Apollo Health University.

'Understaffed' forest dept asks locals to toe leopard advisory

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/meerut/forest-department-urges-locals-to-follow-leopard-advisory-amid-staff-shortage/articleshow/112850592.cms>

Aug 28, 2024, 05.24 AM IST

Bijnor: The forest department in Bijnor district asked villagers to follow guidelines to prevent leopard attacks as it is facing a staff crunch amid an increase in man-animal conflict in the region. Over the past 18 months, leopards have claimed the lives of 24 people in Bijnor. Recently, three individuals were killed in Pilana and Jalalpur Bhud villages.

A senior official requesting anonymity told TOI, "With a staff strength of just 45% of sanctioned number, Bijnor forest department is having a tough time in its duties such as averting man-animal conflict and protecting the green cover, its wildlife habitat and saplings sown every year."

"There are 106 sanctioned vacancies in Bijnor and 56 are lying vacant. There are just five forest rangers against sanctioned 12, three SDOs against seven, 18 van darogas against 34 sanctioned posts, and 22 forest guards against 53 posts," he added.

A forest team from Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR) is camping in Bijnor. In addition, a team from Dudhwa National Park (DNP) is yet to come. According to sub-divisional forest officer Gyan Singh, Mudit Gupta, landscape coordinator of UP's WWF, is coming to Bijnor. He is looking after DNP and will inspect the spot where the leopard attacked villagers.

"We have set up 11 cages and 18 camera traps in the area and written to senior authorities to declare the big cat a man-eater. We have appealed to villagers to take precautions listed by forest department to avoid leopard attacks," Singh said. Notably, the much-needed census of leopards in Bijnor district is on the cards.

We also published the following articles recently

Dhanbad-bound Kisan Express splits into two in Uttar Pradesh's Bijnor district
The Dhanbad-bound Kisan Express split into two sections near Bijnor, causing panic among its 1,600 passengers, including police exam aspirants. Railway and law enforcement teams promptly managed the incident. After inspection, the train resumed its journey, and buses were arranged for aspirants to ensure they reached their exam centers on time.112777444

NHRC seeks reports from govts on development of forest villages
The National Human Rights Commission has instructed the Centre and Odisha government to address the lack of facilities in 4,526 forest villages across the country, including Odisha. Human rights activist Radhakanta Tripathy pointed out the absence of

basic amenities and highlighted issues like human trafficking and malnutrition. Authorities are to submit action taken reports within eight weeks.112814265

Tiger strikes farmer in Pilibhit; forest teams investigateA farmer, aged 50, from Mandaria village was attacked by a tiger while mowing grass in his sugarcane field. The village is located more than 10km from the core area of Pilibhit Tiger Reserve.112699303

Probe to see if trapped leopard killed 5yo last wk

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/trapped-leopard-in-rikhnikhal-undergoing-examination-for-possible-involvement-in-5-year-olds-death/articleshow/112850310.cms>

Aug 28, 2024, 05.03 AM IST

Dehradun: A forest team in Rikhnikhal captured a leopard on Monday, which is undergoing a medical examination to determine if it killed a 5-year-old boy last week while he was visiting his maternal grandparents' home to celebrate Raksha Bandhan.

Villagers from Pauri protested in Rikhnikhal against human-wildlife conflicts in the region due to multiple leopard sightings. "Human-wildlife conflict in the state needs to be addressed. We want changes in laws related to forests and wildlife," said Pramod Rawat, pradhan of Bayela Malla gram sabha.

Meanwhile, Swapnil Anirudh, divisional forest officer Pauri Garhwal said, "We collected samples from both victim and leopard. However, at this stage, we cannot confirm if it is the same leopard." Shivani Azad

We also published the following articles recently

AI-based alerts on leopard sightings that work in Tadoba come to Pune district landscape for trialsThe Junnar division's forest department considers using AI systems to alert officials and villagers about leopards. Cameras will capture images, which an AI mechanism will process to identify leopard behavior and movement. Alerts will be sent to officials and villagers. However, challenges exist in optimizing the system for different environments and ensuring timely alerts.112830249

NHRC seeks reports from govts on development of forest villagesThe National Human Rights Commission has instructed the Centre and Odisha government to provide reports on the deficiency of fundamental facilities in 4,526 forest villages, including those in Odisha. Activist Radhakanta Tripathy pointed out major issues such as malnutrition and human trafficking. Authorities are given an eight-week deadline to address these concerns.112814265

Social forestry division and Wildlife SOS collaborate to enhance crime preventionThe Social Forestry Division and Wildlife SOS organized a workshop in Agra to educate forest officers on preventing wildlife crime. The session focused on recent amendments to the Wildlife Protection Act, especially for reptiles, and stressed the importance of collaboration for effective conservation. Over 50 officers attended, highlighting growing concerns about wildlife crimes.112845332

3 held with leopard skin in Sambalpur

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bhubaneswar/3-held-with-leopard-skin-in-sambalpur/articleshow/112849604.cms>

TNN | Aug 28, 2024, 04.44 AM IST

Sambalpur: Forest officials apprehended three poachers while they were removing the skin and cooking meat of a leopard in Hiraloi village near Landakot reserve forest on Tuesday.TNN

We also published the following articles recently

NHRC seeks reports from govts on development of forest villagesThe National Human Rights Commission has requested the Centre and Odisha government to submit reports addressing the lack of facilities in 4,526 forest villages, following a petition by activist Radhakanta Tripathy. The petition highlights issues such as human trafficking, malnutrition, and lack of healthcare, emphasizing the need for immediate action to provide basic amenities.112814265

Forest officials reprimanded for failing to curb illegal parakeet tradeThe Chhattisgarh forest department has reprimanded officials for not enforcing orders against the illegal trade of protected parakeets and other birds. They have issued new directives for immediate action against this practice, raising public awareness, and enforcing penalties. Citizens are encouraged to report violations and surrender prohibited birds.112765428

Forest officials reprimanded for failing to curb illegal parakeet tradeThe Chhattisgarh forest department has reprimanded officials for failing to curb the illegal trade and possession of endangered parakeets and protected birds. A new directive instructs officials to take immediate action, raise public awareness, and encourage reporting of violations. Individuals possessing these birds should surrender them to zoos, as non-compliance could lead to imprisonment and fines.112765429

Amazon s Project Ashray Aims to Enhance Delivery Worker Welfare with New Resting Points Neha

<https://pune.news/business/amazons-project-ashray-aims-to-enhance-delivery-worker-welfare-with-new-resting-points-220590/>

Raj August 27, 2024

In response to criticism over the working conditions for delivery workers, Amazon India has introduced its first resting point under 'Project Ashray'. This initiative is aimed at improving the on-road experience for delivery partners and addresses concerns about inadequate facilities for workers.

Details of Project Ashray

- **Resting Points Setup:** Amazon India, in collaboration with the Udyasa Foundation, is establishing resting points in major cities including Delhi-NCR, Bengaluru, and Mumbai. These centers are designed to offer a more comfortable and supportive environment for delivery workers.
- **Facilities Provided:** Each 'Ashray' center will feature essential amenities such as washrooms, seating, drinking water, and charging stations. The centers are designed to accommodate up to 15 people at a time and will be open year-round from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Usage of the facilities will be free, with a 30-minute limit per visit. Additionally, parking spaces will be available for delivery associates.
- **Awareness Drive:** Amazon India plans to launch an awareness campaign to ensure that delivery associates are informed about these new resting points and the benefits they offer.

Important Points

- **Response to Criticism:** This move comes after significant backlash and a notice from the **National Human Rights Commission** regarding complaints about poor working conditions, including issues related to restricted access to washrooms in warehouses.
- **Company Commitment:** Abhinav Singh, Vice President-Operations at Amazon India, emphasized the company's dedication to maintaining high standards of infrastructure and practices to enhance the working conditions for delivery partners.
- **Ongoing Efforts:** The introduction of 'Project Ashray' is part of Amazon India's broader effort to address worker welfare concerns and improve the overall working conditions for its delivery workforce.

'Project Ashray' represents a significant step towards addressing the needs of delivery workers and improving their working conditions, reflecting Amazon India's commitment to bettering the on-road experience for its delivery partners.

'Project Ashray': After outrage, Amazon India launches resting points for delivery workers

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/project-ashray-after-outrage-amazon-india-launches-resting-points-for-delivery-workers-12807933.html>

The development comes months after the National Human Rights Commission sent a notice to Amazon India over several complaints by warehouse workers

Moneycontrol News August 27, 2024 / 15:52 IST

Amid backlash over poor working conditions for delivery workers, Amazon India recently launched its first resting point as part of 'Project Ashray'. The project, which is in partnership with Udyasa Foundation, will see the retail giant set up resting points across Delhi-NCR, Bengaluru and Mumbai.

"At Amazon, we are committed to maintaining industry-leading infrastructure and practices to ensure the best on-road experience for our delivery partners," Amazon India Vice President-Operations Abhinav Singh said.

The development comes months after the **National Human Rights Commission** sent a notice to Amazon India over several complaints by warehouse workers. According to media reports published in June, the warehouse staff had complained that they were forced to take "no washroom break pledge" till they met their targets.

"The Ashray centres will provide essential amenities like washrooms, seating, drinking water, and charging stations. Each Ashray center can accommodate 15 people at a time and will be operational throughout the year from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The facility's usage will be free and limited to 30 minutes per visit. Parking spaces will also be provided for delivery associates," Amazon India said in statement. The company will also launch an awareness drive about these rest points among delivery associates.

'Polygraph test on Roy yields false answers

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/polygraph-test-on-roy-yields-false-answers/articleshow/112790764.cms>

TNN | Aug 27, 2024, 10.29 AM IST

KOLKATA: CBI's polygraph test on Sanjay Roy, the arrested suspect in the RG Kar hospital rape-murder case, flagged "false and unconvincing" answers to questions on his newly professed "innocence", investigators said on Sunday after a pair of designated officers conducted the proceedings at Kolkata's Presidency jail.

Read more: Kolkata Doctor Rape and Murder Case Live

Roy's state-appointed counsel stirred a controversy when she accused the agency of violating guidelines of the National Human Rights Commission by going ahead with the test in the absence of a defence lawyer.

"CBI did not inform us when the test would be carried out. They ought to have let us know so that we could be present," she said.

Roy appeared "unnerved and anxious" during the two hours of questioning, CBI sources said.

Sources said he stuck to that line during the polygraph test, citing multiple "alibis" despite CBI accosting him with "evidence" that included forensic findings pointing to his involvement in the rape-murder of a 31-year-old junior doctor.

Roy, the sources said, claimed the victim was already dead when he spotted her, and that he ran away in fear.

Apollo Issues Clarification on Gastroenteritis Outbreak Incident

<https://www.indiaglitz.com/apollo-issues-clarification-on-gastroenteritis-outbreak-incident-telugu-news-358291>

Tuesday, August 27, 2024 • Telugu

In light of recent events, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India has taken suo motu cognizance of media reports dated 19th and 21st August 2024, highlighting two alarming food poisoning incidents in Andhra Pradesh. One incident reportedly affected the health of 70 students at Chittoor Apollo Health University due to food contamination. These students were treated at Chittoor Government Hospital. In another tragic incident, three children lost their lives, and 37 others fell ill after consuming contaminated food at an orphanage in Anakapalli district. The affected children were admitted to hospitals in Anakapalli and Vishakhapatnam.

The **NHRC** noted that if these reports are accurate, they represent a grave violation of the victims' human rights. The incidents point to negligence by the authorities responsible for ensuring food safety and the well-being of the affected individuals. In response, the Commission issued notices to the Chief Secretary and Director General of Police, Andhra Pradesh, demanding detailed reports on both incidents within two weeks. These reports are expected to include the status of FIRs, the health condition of the victims, and the measures taken or proposed to prevent such tragic events in the future.

Following the NHRC's actions, the Apollo Institute of Medical Sciences and Research released a statement addressing the gastroenteritis outbreak at Chittoor Apollo Health University. The management confirmed that all the affected students who had been admitted to the government hospital, operated by Apollo Hospitals, have since been discharged and are recovering well. The institute emphasized that it has taken the incident very seriously and has implemented stringent measures to prevent any recurrence.

A thorough investigation is underway, and the management assured that those responsible for the negligence will face strict consequences. Furthermore, they are enhancing food safety protocols and will enforce regular inspections by food safety experts to ensure the health and safety of all students.

Delhi High Court Stays NHRC Order For ₹5 Lakh Compensation To Kin Of Suicide Victim In Police Custody

<https://www.verdictum.in/court-updates/high-courts/bangalore-electricity-supply-company-limited-v-hirehalli-solar-power-project-2024-insc-631-restrictive-scope-of-appellate-jurisdiction-1549378?infinite-scroll=1>

By Verdictum News Desk | 27 Aug 2024 2:45 AM

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

Explainer : ये हैं बंगाल के पुलिस वालिंटियर - पाते हैं 310 रुपया रोज, संजय राय भी था यही, क्यों हो रहे बदना...

<https://headtopics.com/in/69120112108971079130-58030283>

27-08-2024 16:38:00

Kolkata Doctor Rape & Murder : कोलकाता रेप - मर्डर का मुख्य आरोपी संजय राय बंगाल में सिविक पुलिस वालिंटियर था. इस कांड के बाद अब पुलिस वालिंटियर भी चर्चाओं में आ गए हैं. जो कई मामलों में पुलिस की मदद करते हैं.

कोलकाता के आरजी कर मेडिकल कॉलेज और अस्पताल में एक महिला डॉक्टर के रेप और मर्डर के बाद पता चला है कि अपराधी संजय राय खुद कोलकाता में एक सिविक पुलिस वालिंटियर है, जिसकी न केवल अस्पताल बल्कि आपातकालीन भवन तक भी पहुंच थी. जहां घुसकर उसने 31 वर्षीय महिला डॉक्टर को अपना शिकार बनाया. इस घटना के बाद सिविक पुलिस वालिंटियर की भर्ती प्रक्रिया पर सवाल उठा दिए हैं. उसकी जांच की मांग होने लगी है.

सवाल – बाद में नागरिक पुलिस वालिंटियर पर सवाल क्यों उठने लगे? – पश्चिम बंगाल में चुनाव के बाद हुई हिंसा की जांच करने वाली **राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग** की 2021 की रिपोर्ट में कहा गया कि बड़ी संख्या में लोगों को रोजगार प्रदान करने के बावजूद, यह योजना सही तरीके से क्रियान्वित नहीं की गई. जैसे अपर्याप्त प्रशिक्षण और नागरिक स्वयंसेवकों का करियर आगे नहीं बढ़ पाना.

गोद लिए गए गांवों में सब कुछ ठीक नहीं: NHRC seeks report

Kiran27 Aug 2024 10:55 AM

<https://jantaserishta.com/local/odisha/all-is-not-well-in-adopted-villages-nhrc-seeks-report-3488019>

भुवनेश्वर Bhubaneswar: राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) ने सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंकों (पीएसबी), सांसदों और विधायकों द्वारा 'गोद लिए गए' गांवों के निवासियों की दुर्दशा पर ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय के सचिव और राज्य के मुख्य सचिव से आठ सप्ताह के भीतर विस्तृत जवाब मांगा है। एनएचआरसी ने यह कदम वरिष्ठ वकील राधाकांत त्रिपाठी द्वारा दायर याचिका पर सुनवाई करते हुए उठाया। याचिकाकर्ता ने देश में लोकतंत्र के विभिन्न अंगों और संस्थानों द्वारा रिकॉर्ड पर 'गोद लिए गए' गांवों में बुनियादी सुविधाओं और बुनियादी जरूरतों की कमी की ओर शीर्ष मानवाधिकार निकाय का ध्यान आकर्षित किया।

त्रिपाठी ने अपनी याचिका में आरोप लगाया कि भद्रक जिले के जलंगा जैसे गांवों में रहने वाले निवासी, खासकर अनुसूचित जनजाति (एसटी) समुदाय के गरीब लोग, जिन्हें समग्र ग्रामीण विकास योजना (एसजीवीवाई) के तहत भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (आरबीआई) ने गोद लिया है, दयनीय जीवन जी रहे हैं। त्रिपाठी ने कहा, "आरबीआई गवर्नर डी सुब्बाराव ने 3 दिसंबर, 2009 को जलंगा में एक वित्तीय आउटरीच कार्यक्रम का शुभारंभ किया था। इसके बाद, यूको बैंक ने एसजीवीवाई के तहत जलंगा को एक आदर्श गांव में बदलने के लिए इसे गोद लिया। फरवरी 2013 में जलंगा की अपनी यात्रा के दौरान सुब्बाराव ने यूको बैंक के खिलाफ शिकायतें सुनीं। लेकिन कोई फायदा नहीं हुआ।" उन्होंने दावा किया कि आज तक राज्य के पांच गांव - जलंगा, चांदलपुर, पोकाटुंगा, छताबारा और भेड़ाबहाल - जिन्हें आरबीआई ने एसजीवीवाई के तहत गोद लिया है, ने गोद लेने के 14 साल बाद भी कोई सुधार नहीं दिखाया है।

याचिकाकर्ता ने कहा कि सांसदों, विधायकों और कॉरपोरेट द्वारा गोद लिए गए गांवों की स्थिति अलग नहीं है। उन्होंने कहा कि ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय द्वारा भारत में गोद लिए गए गांवों के बारे में कोई व्यापक डेटाबेस तैयार नहीं किया गया है। त्रिपाठी ने कहा, "केवल रिकॉर्ड पर गोद लेने, गरीबी और पिछड़ेपन के नाम पर भ्रष्ट व्यक्तियों के गठजोड़ के साथ पैसा खर्च करने से गोद लिए गए ग्रामीणों की जीवन स्थिति और खराब हो जाती है और लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था में उनका विश्वास कमजोर होता है।" त्रिपाठी ने कहा कि गोद लिए गए ग्रामीणों के निवासियों की जीवन स्थितियों और जीवन की गुणवत्ता के साथ-साथ खुशी सूचकांक का आवधिक, व्यवस्थित मूल्यांकन और मूल्यांकन को अत्यधिक महत्व दिया जाना चाहिए। मानवाधिकार कार्यकर्ता ने एनएचआरसी से ओडिशा और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों सहित राज्यों में गोद लिए गए गांवों पर एक व्यापक डेटाबेस बनाने और ग्रामीणों के विकास पर एक अध्ययन करने का आग्रह किया, जहां तक जीवन की बुनियादी आवश्यकताओं और बुनियादी सुविधाओं और स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा, रोजगार और मानव जीवन के अन्य मापदंडों में सुधार का सवाल है।