

मानवाधिकार आयोग ने एसपी से मांगी रिपोर्ट

खड्डा। नेबुआ नौरंगिया थाना क्षेत्र के एक गांव में नाबालिग के मां बनने के मामले में राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग ने एक्शन लेते हुए एसपी कुशीनगर से 72 घंटे के अंदर रिपोर्ट मांगी है। नेबुआ नौरंगिया थाना क्षेत्र के एक गांव की रहने वाली किशोरी के साथ एक युवक ने दुष्कर्म किया था। इस वजह से वह गर्भवती हो गई थी। उसने 27 दिसंबर 2024 को एक बच्ची को जन्म दिया था। लड़की के पिता की तहरीर पर पुलिस ने आरोपी युवक के खिलाफ मुकदमा दर्जकर लिया था, आरोपी जेल में है।

इस खबर को अमर उजाला ने प्रमुखता से प्रकाशित किया था। खबर को संज्ञान में लेकर मानव सेवा संस्थान के निदेशक राजेश मणि ने पीड़िता को न्याय दिलाने के लिए इस मामले की शिकायत राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग से की थी। इस पर एनएचआरसी ने मामला रजिस्टर्ड कर लिया और शुक्रवार को आयोग के असिस्टेंट रजिस्ट्रार (लॉ) ब्रिजवीर सिंह ने जारी आदेश में एसपी कुशीनगर से 72 घंटे में प्रकरण के सभी पहलुओं की जानकारी उपलब्ध कराने को कहा है। इसकी कॉपी डीजीपी उत्तर प्रदेश को भी भेजी गई है। एनएचआरसी ने कुशीनगर के एस से 72 घंटे में पूरी जानकारी तलब की है। पीड़िता व बच्ची को न्याय दिलाने की पूरी कोशिश चल रही है। संवाद

The Tribune

Kotkhai and the unchecked horror of custodial torture

The culture of impunity created as a result of not fixing accountability in custodial torture cases must be pierced.

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/comment/kotkhai-and-the-unchecked-horror-of-custodial-torture>

Raja Bagga | Updated At : 05:32 AM Feb 01, 2025 IST

On July 4, 2017, a 16-year-old girl went missing in Himachal Pradesh's Kotkhai. Two days later, her body was recovered from a forest near the town. The sensational rape and murder of Gudiya (the name given to the minor victim by locals) made newspaper headlines across the country and triggered political mudslinging and massive public protests.

In order to assuage public sentiments, the government swiftly formed a special investigation team under the then IG, Zahoor Haider Zaidi. In such high-profile cases, a combination of mounting political pressure, an aggressive media and rising public outrage often forces the police to resort to an old script — of quickly picking up scapegoats and inflicting torture on them to extort confessions and douse the anger.

Unfortunately, this case was no different. Twelve days later, Suraj Singh, one of the suspects in the case, was brutally tortured and killed by the police. An investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation later revealed that a nexus of eight officials — Zaidi, DSP Manoj Joshi, Sub-Inspector Rajinder Singh, ASI Deep Chand Sharma, head constables Mohan Lal, Surat Singh and Rafee Mohammad and constable Ranjeet Steta — was involved in the conspiracy and cover-up.

The brazen conspiracy was only the latest example that spotlighted the grim reality of custodial torture and deaths. The malaise has not been eradicated despite the Supreme Court, the National Human Rights Commission and civil society groups repeatedly lamenting that allowing this criminality to continue by not fixing accountability on perpetrators had created a culture of impunity.

The conviction pronounced by a CBI court last week for illegal detention, torture to extort confessions, murder, fabricating and destroying evidence, and other crimes in the case, is an important blow to this culture of impunity.

It offers a glimmer of hope for holding the police accountable for their actions, especially in a milieu where convictions in custodial death cases are rare.

Three takeaways from the case are crucial.

First, the focus on the role of the whistleblower, Dinesh Kumar, who was the sentry on duty outside the lockup of the Kotkhai police station at the time of the incident. His testimony provided a crucial account of the night when police officers brutally beat Suraj

Singh and others on the first floor of the station, with their screams echoing down to the ground floor.

The extraordinary nature of this testimony is evident when one turns to the 1995 State of MP vs Shyamsunder Trivedi case, where the Supreme Court noted that police officers, bound by "ties of brotherhood", often choose to stay silent rather than assist the court.

Initially, this case was no different. All personnel involved — except Dinesh Kumar and Mukesh Sharma (the night munshi on duty) — worked together to fabricate and destroy evidence.

Kumar, however, resisted joining the conspiracy to falsify the death. Despite frequent threats from Rajinder Singh, the then SHO of Kotkhai Police Station, Kumar stood firm. Not only that, he recorded these threat calls, which became a key piece of evidence in holding the perpetrators accountable. His bravery in speaking the truth and exposing the crimes committed by his superiors was the single biggest contributor to the landmark conviction.

Second, the critical role of the CBI cannot be overstated. Its investigation to unearth the fabrication of the general diary and other documents at the police station and interference with the CCTNS (Crime and Criminal Tracking Networks and Systems) as well as ensuring that the autopsy report was not manipulated and safeguarding the family from the fear of reprisal so that they could testify in court, all collectively ensured that Suraj Singh's killers were brought to justice.

Third, the brazenness displayed by the police even in a high-profile case with nationwide scrutiny is instructive. The IG confidently proclaimed in a press conference that the police had 'cracked' the Gudiya case and arrested the culprits based on scientific evidence, whereas the arrests were made six hours after this press conference. Further, the IG tried to intimidate and force the then SP, Shimla, to hand over Suraj Singh's body to the family for cremation even as the re-examination of the body was yet to be conducted — all this, at a time when the police had not even informed the family of Suraj's death.

Clearly, even intense media scrutiny and political pressure were not deterrents enough for the officials to stick to the law.

The conviction is heartening, especially in a system where guilty officers often escape any accountability.

But it is far from a watershed moment. The 400-odd-page judgment makes for sombre reading and is a ringing indictment of the criminal justice system.

It showed that despite a flurry of apex court orders, torture of suspects is rampant and easily excused. Medical reports and testimonies of the co-accused revealed that they were stripped naked, hung upside down, beaten with lathis and given electric shocks. Suraj Singh's autopsy report showed that he was beaten with a blunt hard cylindrical

object/weapon, such as lathi, rod or baton, from about two days to two hours prior to death.

It showed that the fabrication of evidence can be done with little fear of consequences. And, it showed that whistleblowers continue to battle mounting challenges if they choose to expose the rot in the system.

The Kotkhai verdict was achieved against odds because of the grit of investigating officials to uncover and deal with procedural violations, the courage of the eyewitnesses to stand up and testify against their superiors, even threats hanging over their heads, and the availability of the recordings to corroborate these testimonies.

Now, the hard work must begin to pierce the culture of impunity. While a complete overhaul of police selection, training and orientation is essential, some immediate steps need to be taken. Certain legislative changes will significantly help in preventing law enforcers from becoming lawbreakers.

These changes include reversing the burden of proof in custodial death and torture cases (a recommendation by both the Supreme Court and Law Commission), enacting a comprehensive anti-torture law, ensuring that medical professionals can document injuries without fear of intimidation, installing functional CCTV cameras throughout police stations, giving teeth to police accountability bodies, like the Police Complaint Authority, and developing a framework for lawyers to visit police stations regularly.

Unless these material reforms are undertaken, the odds of another similar tragedy will remain depressingly high.

ABP Live

Human Rights Body Sends Notice To Delhi Govt Over '474 Deaths' In 56 Days Of Winter

<https://news.abplive.com/cities/human-rights-body-nhrc-sends-notice-to-delhi-govt-over-474-deaths-of-homeless-people-in-56-days-of-winter-1748044>

January 31, 2025

The National Human Rights Commission has taken suo motu cognisance of 474 reported deaths of homeless persons during this winter season in Delhi within a span of 56 days. The human rights body has sent notices to the Chief Secretary and the Commissioner of Police, Delhi seeking a detailed report in the matter within one week.

In a press release, the NHRC referred to data from the Centre for Holistic Development (CHD), an NGO working with the homeless, about 474 persons being killed between December 15, 2024 and January 10, 2025.

As per the NGO, the deaths took place due to the unavailability of essential protective measures such as warm clothing, blankets, and adequate shelter.

The NGO further claimed that around 80 per cent of the unidentified dead bodies in the national capital "are believed to be homeless individuals."

"The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India has taken suo motu cognisance of a media report that according to the Centre for Holistic Development (CHD), an NGO working with the homeless, about 474 persons have lost their lives within a span of 56 days during this winter season in Delhi," the NHRC said in its release.

"The Commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, raise a serious violation of human rights. Therefore, it has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Commissioner of Police, Delhi calling for a detailed report in the matter within one week," it added.

"According to the media report, carried on 16th January, 2025, many shelters in the National Capital are unable to meet the demand and those, that are available, often lack essential facilities like heating and hot water, leaving the individuals exposed to the bitter cold," said the human rights body.

"Citing a few specific examples of the people living on the streets, the media report has also stated that they are facing numerous health challenges including respiratory infections, skin ailments flair-ups and deteriorating mental health," it added.

"Citing a few specific examples of the people living on the streets, the media report has also stated that they are facing numerous health challenges including respiratory infections, skin ailments flair-ups and deteriorating mental health," it added.

ETEMAAD

NHRC takes suo motu cognizance of 474 deaths of homeless in Delhi winters

<https://www.en.etemaaddaily.com/world/national/nhrc-takes-suo-motu-cognizance-of-474-deaths-of-homeless-in-delhi-winters:169512>

Fri 31 Jan 2025, 10:20:02

The National Human Rights Commission has taken suo motu cognizance of the reported death of 474 homeless persons within a span of 56 days during this winter season in Delhi. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Delhi Police Commissioner, calling for a detailed report on the matter within one week.

According to reports, these deaths occurred between 15th December 2024 and 10th January 2025 due to the lack of essential protective measures such

as warm clothing, blankets, and adequate shelters. The report highlighted that about 80 percent of the unidentified dead bodies in Delhi are believed to be homeless individuals.

Citing a few examples of people living on the streets, the media report also noted that homeless individuals are facing numerous health challenges, including respiratory infections, skin ailments flare-ups, and deteriorating mental health.

Ommcom

Kumbh Mela Stampede: Rights Activist Seeks NHRC Intervention On Odia Casualties

<https://ommcomnews.com/odisha-news/kumbh-mela-stampede-rights-activist-seeks-nhrc-intervention-on-odia-casualties/>

January 31, 2025

Bhubaneswar: Expressing concern over the stampede incident at the Kumbh Mela festival which left 30 persons dead and 60 injured, a human rights activist filed a petition with the National Human Rights Commission seeking specific information on the number of Odia devotees among the casualties.

According to petitioner Puri-based activist, Odia pilgrims might also be included among the deceased devotees. However, the exact number of Odia casualties, critically injured, and missing persons remains unclear. The state government has not provided a clear statement on the matter, and there is a sense of urgency to gather more information about the affected Odia devotees.

The incident has prompted Jayanta Das, a human rights activist from Puri, to file a complaint with the National Human Rights Commission. He urged the Commission to ensure that the incident is thoroughly investigated and that the affected families receive adequate compensation and support.

He demanded the Commission to provide compensation of Rs 30 lakh to the families of each deceased and Rs 5 lakh to those critically injured. Additionally, the opposition has urged the state government to immediately set up a separate camp at the Kumbh Mela to ensure the safety and security of Odia devotees.

Jagran

चौकाने वाली रिपोर्ट: सर्दी में 474 बेघरों ने तोड़ा दम, एक्शन मोड में NHRC; नोटिस जारी कर मांगा जवाब

दिल्ली में दिसंबर से मध्य जनवरी के बीच हाड़ कपाने वाली सर्दी में 474 बेघरों की मौत हो गई। राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग ने इस पर स्वतः संज्ञान लेते हुए दिल्ली के मुख्य सचिव व पुलिस आयुक्त को नोटिस जारी कर एक सप्ताह के भीतर विस्तृत रिपोर्ट मांगी। आयोग ने कहा कि कई आश्रय गृह समुचित मांग को पूरा करने में असमर्थ हैं और अधिकांश में आवश्यक सुविधाओं का अभाव है।

<https://www.jagran.com/delhi/new-delhi-city-ncr-delhi-474-people-died-in-winter-and-nhrc-issued-notice-to-chief-secretary-and-police-commissioner-seeking-answers-23876069.html>

By Nimish Hemant Edited By: Kapil Kumar Updated: Fri, 31 Jan 2025 10:15 AM (IST)

HighLights

इस सर्दी सड़कों पर 474 बेघरों ने तोड़ा दम, एनएचआरसी ने लिया संज्ञान।

दिल्ली के मुख्य सचिव-पुलिस आयुक्त को नोटिस जारी कर मांगा गया जवाब।

कंबल-पर्याप्त आश्रय जैसे आवश्यक सुरक्षात्मक उपायों की कम उपलब्धता से हुई मौतें।

जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली। दिसंबर से मध्य जनवरी के बीच हाड़ कपाने वाली सर्दी में दिल्ली की सड़कों और फुटपथों पर 474 बेघरों ने दम तोड़ दिया। इस पर राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) ने स्वतः संज्ञान लेते हुए दिल्ली के मुख्य सचिव व पुलिस आयुक्त को नोटिस जारी कर एक सप्ताह के भीतर विस्तृत रिपोर्ट मांगी है।

एनएचआरसी के अनुसार, बेघर लोगों के बीच काम करने वाले गैर सरकारी संगठन सेंटर फार होलिस्टिक डेवलपमेंट (सीएचडी) की एक रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, दिल्ली में इस सर्दी में 56 दिनों के भीतर लगभग 474 लोगों की जान चली गई। गर्म कपड़े, कंबल और पर्याप्त आश्रय जैसे आवश्यक सुरक्षात्मक उपायों की अनुपलब्धता के चलते ये मौतें पिछले वर्ष 15 दिसंबर से इस वर्ष 10 जनवरी के बीच हुई हैं।

सर्दी में 474 लोगों ने तोड़ा दम

सीएचडी के अनुसार, सड़कों पर दम तोड़ने वाले 474 लोगों में 80 प्रतिशत शव अज्ञात बेघरों के थे। सीएचडी के उक्त दावे पर आधारित रिपोर्ट दैनिक जागरण में 12 जनवरी को प्रकाशित हुई थी।

आयोग ने जारी बयान में कहा कि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में कई आश्रय गृह समुचित मांग को पूरा करने में असमर्थ हैं और जो उपलब्ध हैं, उनमें से अधिकतर में आवश्यक सुविधाओं का अभाव है, जिससे व्यक्ति कड़ाके की ठंड में रहने को मजबूर हो जाते हैं।

सड़कों पर रहने वाले लोगों के बारे में यह भी बात सामने आई है कि वे उचित चिकित्सकीय व रखरखाव के अभाव में श्वसन संक्रमण, त्वचा संबंधी बीमारियों और बिगड़ते मानसिक स्वास्थ्य सहित कई स्वास्थ्य चुनौतियों का सामना कर रहे हैं।

रेलवे स्टेशन पर मौतें दर्ज की गई थीं

सर्दी में सर्वाधिक मौतें रेलवे स्टेशन परिसरों में दर्ज की गई थीं। इनमें आनन्द विहार, सब्जी मंडी, हजरत निजामुद्दीन, सराय रोहिला, दिल्ली कैंट समेत अन्य स्टेशन हैं, जहां 100 मौतें दर्ज हुई थीं।

इसके बाद, अधिक मौतें उत्तरी दिल्ली जिला पुलिस क्षेत्र में दर्ज थीं। सब्जी मंडी, कश्मीरी गेट, कोतवाली, लाहौरी गेट, सिविल लाइंस, बाड़ा हिंदूराव, सदर बाजार, तिमारपुर, सराय रोहिला, वजीराबाद, गुलाबी बाग समेत अन्य स्थानों में नवंबर से अब तक 83 मौतें हुई थीं।

अन्य इलाकों में 54 बेघरों की मौतें सर्दी से दर्ज की गईं

मध्य दिल्ली के दरियागंज, पहाड़गंज, नबी करीम, जामा मस्जिद, हौज काजी, राजेंद्र नगर, पटेल नगर, कमला मार्केट, करोलबाग समेत अन्य इलाकों में 54 बेघरों की मौतें सर्दी से दर्ज की गईं। सीएचडी के कार्यकारी निदेशक सुनील अलेडिया के अनुसार, बेघरों की मौतों के ये आंकड़े दिल्ली पुलिस नेटवर्क (जिप नेट) द्वारा संकलित है।

Amar Ujala

Kushinagar News: मानवाधिकार आयोग ने एसपी से मांगी रिपोर्ट

<https://www.amarujala.com/uttar-pradesh/kushinagar/human-rights-commission-asked-for-report-from-sp-kushinagar-news-c-205-1-ksh1008-131287-2025-02-01>

संवाद न्यूज एजेंसी, कुशीनगर Updated Sat, 01 Feb 2025 12:28 AM IST

खड्डा। नेबुआ नौरंगिया थाना क्षेत्र के एक गांव में नाबालिगा के मां बनने के मामले में राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग ने एक्शन लेते हुए एसपी कुशीनगर से 72 घंटे के अंदर रिपोर्ट मांगी है। नेबुआ नौरंगिया थाना क्षेत्र के एक गांव की रहने वाली किशोरी के साथ एक युवक ने दुष्कर्म किया था। इस वजह से वह गर्भवती हो गई थी। उसने 27 दिसंबर 2024 को एक बच्ची को जन्म दिया था। लड़की के पिता की तहरीर पर पुलिस ने आरोपी युवक के खिलाफ मुकदमा दर्जकर लिया था, आरोपी जेल में है।

इस खबर को अमर उजाला ने प्रमुखता से प्रकाशित किया था। खबर को संज्ञान में लेकर मानव सेवा संस्थान के निदेशक राजेश मणि ने पीड़िता को न्याय दिलाने के लिए इस मामले की शिकायत राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग से की थी। इस पर एनएचआरसी ने मामला रजिस्टर्ड कर लिया और शुक्रवार को आयोग के असिस्टेंट रजिस्ट्रार (लाॅ) ब्रिजवीर सिंह ने जारी आदेश में एसपी कुशीनगर से 72 घंटे में प्रकरण के सभी पहलुओं की जानकारी उपलब्ध कराने को कहा है। इसकी काॅपी डीजीपी उत्तर प्रदेश को भी भेजी गई है। एनएचआरसी ने कुशीनगर के एस से 72 घंटे में पूरी जानकारी तलब की है। पीड़िता व बच्ची को न्याय दिलाने की पूरी कोशिश चल रही है।