

Hindu

**NHRC notices to Karnataka government, DGP over Hubballi minor's `rape, killing', death of accused in `police encounter'**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/nhrc-notices-to-karnataka-government-dgp-over-hubballi-minors-rape-killing-death-of-accused-in-police-encounter/article69509823.ece>

Taking "suo-motu cognisance of a media report", the commission has observed that the contents of the report, if true, indicate a "serious violation of the human rights of the victim minor girl, and the arrested suspected perpetrator, killed in an alleged encounter".

Published - April 30, 2025 05:02 pm IST - New Delhi

PTI

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Wednesday (April 30, 2025) said it has issued notices to the Karnataka government and the State's police chief over reports alleging the abduction, rape and killing of a girl and the death of the accused in a "police encounter" in Hubballi.

The report, sought within four weeks, is expected to include the "post-mortem examination" and "magisterial inquiry reports" of both the deceased, the NHRC said in a statement.

Human Rights Commission begins inquiry into Hubballi police encountering accused

The NHRC has taken "suo-motu cognisance of a media report about the abduction, rape and murder of a minor girl and the death of the arrested accused in a police encounter in Hubballi, Karnataka. Reportedly, the incident happened on April 14," it said.

The commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, indicate a "serious violation of the human rights of the victim minor girl, and the arrested suspected perpetrator, killed in an alleged encounter".

Therefore, the NHRC has issued notices to the chief secretary and director general of police of Karnataka, seeking a detailed report within four weeks, the rights panel said.

According to the media report, published on April 14, soon after the girl's body was found, people protested outside the Ashok Nagar police station, demanding the arrest of the accused, the statement said.

"Reportedly, he was nabbed by the police within hours of the incident and was being taken for questioning when he tried to attack them, resulting in gunshot injuries to him, leading to his death," it added.

India Today

## **Human rights body hauls Karnataka over minor's rape, encounter death of accused**

The National Human Rights Commission issued notices to the Karnataka government and state police chief over the rape and murder of a five-year-old girl and the death of the accused in police encounter.

<https://www.indiatoday.in/amp/india/karnataka/story/nhrc-notice-karnataka-hubballi-minor-rape-murder-accused-encounter-death-2717634-2025-04-30>

India Today News Desk

UPDATED: Apr 30, 2025 19:37 IST

Written By: Afreen Hussain

In Short

NHRC demands government report in four weeks

Accused killed during police questioning in April

Five-year-old raped, strangled to death in Hubballi

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) issued notices to the Karnataka government and the state's Director General of Police (DGP) following media reports alleging the abduction, rape, and murder of a minor girl, and the subsequent death of the accused in a police encounter in Hubballi.

In a statement released on Wednesday, the NHRC said it had taken suo motu cognisance of the reports, which claimed the incident occurred on April 14. The Commission said it was seeking a detailed report within four weeks from the Chief Secretary and the state's police chief. The report is expected to include the post-mortem examination and magisterial inquiry reports of both the deceased minor and the accused.

"The contents of the news report, if true, indicate a serious violation of the human rights of the victim, a minor girl, and the arrested suspected perpetrator, killed in an alleged encounter," the Commission said.

According to the report cited by the NHRC, people gathered in protest outside the Ashok Nagar police station after the girl's body was found, demanding the immediate arrest of the accused. The accused was reportedly apprehended within hours of the incident. However, while being taken for questioning, he allegedly attempted to attack the police, leading to gunshot injuries that resulted in his death.

The case pertains to the death of a five-year-old girl who was strangled to death after an attempted rape in Karnataka's Hubballi. The accused, Ritesh Kumar from Bihar, lured the child into a shed and tried to sexually assault her. When locals heard the child scream, they rushed to the scene, but by then, Ritesh had strangled her and fled. He was later

identified through CCTV footage that showed him carrying the girl away while she was playing in front of her house.

Police arrested Ritesh and booked him under sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act and for murder. During questioning, Ritesh reportedly confessed to the crime. According to Hubballi Police Commissioner Shashi Kumar, the accused attacked police officers with stones when taken to his place of residence to retrieve documents and verify his identity. A woman sub-inspector fired a warning shot in the air, and when he did not stop, multiple rounds were fired. He sustained gunshot wounds to his leg and back and later died at the hospital.

One sub-inspector and two police personnel were also injured in the altercation and are receiving treatment. Police said Ritesh had been living in Hubballi for nearly three months, working at construction sites and hotels, and had been away from his native Patna for several years. A team has been sent to Bihar to gather more information on his background.

The NHRC has stressed the need for transparency and accountability in the handling of such serious incidents, especially when they involve the custodial death of an accused and the rights of a child victim.

ABP Live English

## **NHRC Issues Notices To Karnataka Govt & DGP Over Minor's `Rape', `Killing' & Accused's Death In `Encounter'**

The NHRC has taken suo-motu cognisance of a media report about the abduction, rape and murder of a minor girl and the death of the arrested accused in a police encounter in Hubballi, Karnataka.

<https://news.abplive.com/news/india/karnataka-nhrc-issues-notices-to-govt-dgp-over-minor-s-murder-accused-death-in-encounter-1769059>

By : PTI | Updated at : 30 Apr 2025 04:43 PM (IST)

The NHRC on Wednesday said it has issued notices to the Karnataka government and the state's police chief over reports alleging the abduction, rape and killing of a girl and the death of the accused in a "police encounter" in Hubballi. The report, sought within four weeks, is expected to include the "post-mortem examination" and "magisterial inquiry reports" of both the deceased, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) said in a statement.

The NHRC has taken "suo-motu cognisance of a media report about the abduction, rape and murder of a minor girl and the death of the arrested accused in a police encounter in Hubballi, Karnataka. Reportedly, the incident happened on April 14", it said.

The commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, indicate a "serious violation of the human rights of the victim minor girl, and the arrested suspected perpetrator, killed in an alleged encounter".

Therefore, the NHRC has issued notices to the chief secretary and director general of police of Karnataka, seeking a detailed report within four weeks, the rights panel said.

According to the media report, published on April 14, soon after the girl's body was found, people protested outside the Ashok Nagar police station, demanding the arrest of the accused, the statement said.

"Reportedly, he was nabbed by the police within hours of the incident and was being taken for questioning when he tried to attack them, resulting in gunshot injuries to him, leading to his death," it added.

(This report has been published as part of the auto-generated syndicate wire feed. Apart from the headline, no editing has been done in the copy by ABP Live.)

Free Press Journal

## **Hubballi Minor Murder Case: NHRC Takes Suo Motu Cognizance Of Arrested Accused's Death**

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India has taken suo motu cognizance of a media report about the abduction, rape and murder of a minor girl and the death of the arrested accused in a police encounter in Hubballi, Karnataka. Reportedly, the incident happened on 14th April, 2025.

<https://www.freepressjournal.in/india/hubballi-minor-murder-case-nhrc-takes-suo-motu-cognizance-of-arrested-accuseds-death>

Somendra Sharma | Updated: Wednesday, April 30, 2025, 04:04 PM IST

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India has taken suo motu cognizance of a media report about the abduction, rape and murder of a minor girl and the death of the arrested accused in a police encounter in Hubballi, Karnataka. Reportedly, the incident happened on 14th April, 2025.

The Commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, raise a serious violation of the human rights of the victim minor girl, and the arrested suspected perpetrator, killed in an alleged encounter. Therefore, the Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Government of Karnataka, calling for a detailed report in the matter within four weeks.

The report is expected to include the post-mortem examination and the Magisterial Enquiry Reports of both the deceased.

According to the media report, carried on 14th April, 2025, soon after the girl's body was recovered from the bathroom, the angry residents protested outside Ashok Nagar police station, demanding the arrest of the accused. Reportedly, he was nabbed by the police within hours of the incident and was being taken for questioning when he tried to attack them, resulting in gunshot injuries to him, leading to his death.

Madhyamam

### **NHRC notices to K'taka govt over minor's murder & accused's encounter death**

<https://madhyamamonline.com/india/nhrc-notices-to-ktaka-govt-dgp-over-minors-murder-accuseds-encounter-death-1404337>

Posted on 30 Apr 2025 4:32 PM Updated on 30 Apr 2025 4:32 PM

New Delhi: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued notices to the Karnataka government and the state's police chief regarding reports of the abduction, rape, and murder of a minor girl, as well as the death of the accused in a "police encounter" in Hubballi.

The NHRC has requested a detailed report within four weeks, including the "post-mortem examination" and "magisterial inquiry reports" of both deceased individuals, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) said in a statement.

The NHRC has taken "suo motu cognisance of a media report about the abduction, rape and murder of a minor girl and the death of the arrested accused in a police encounter in Hubballi, Karnataka.

Reportedly, the incident happened on April 14", it said.

The commission noted that if the reports are accurate, they point to a "serious violation of the human rights of the victim minor girl and the arrested suspected perpetrator, killed in an alleged encounter".

According to the media, protests erupted outside the Ashok Nagar police station after the girl's body was discovered, demanding the arrest of the accused.

"Reportedly, he was nabbed by the police within hours of the incident and was being taken for questioning when he tried to attack them, resulting in gunshot injuries to him, leading to his death," it added.

The NHRC has emphasised the need for a thorough investigation into the matter.

(inputs from PTI)

United News of India

**NHRC takes suo motu cognisance of Hubballi rape-murder of minor, and police encounter of accused**

<https://www.uniindia.com/nhrc-takes-suo-motu-cognisance-of-hubballi-rape-murder-of-minor-and-police-encounter-of-accused/south/news/3451738.html>

States » South Posted at: Apr 30 2025 5:01PM

Bengaluru, Apr 30 (UNI) The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has taken suo motu cognisance of media reports concerning the abduction, rape and murder of a minor girl, followed by the death of the arrested accused in a police encounter in Hubballi.

The incident, which took place on April 14, has sparked widespread concern over possible violations of human rights. According to reports, the body of the minor girl was found in a bathroom, prompting angry local residents to stage a protest outside the Ashok Nagar police station, demanding swift action against the perpetrator.

The accused was allegedly apprehended by police shortly after the discovery of the body. However, during transportation for interrogation, he reportedly attempted to attack the police personnel, leading to gunfire in which he sustained fatal injuries.

Taking serious note of the matter, the Commission observed that, if true, the reported facts raise grave concerns regarding the protection of human rights — both of the minor victim and of the suspect killed in the alleged encounter.

Accordingly, the NHRC has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Government of Karnataka, seeking a detailed report within four weeks. The Commission has asked that the report include the post-mortem examination and the Magisterial Enquiry Reports of both deceased individuals.

News On Air

**K'taka: NHRC takes suo motu cognizance of rape, murder & custodial death**

<https://www.newsonair.gov.in/ktaka-nhrc-takes-suo-motu-cognizance-of-rape-murder-custodial-death/>

Site Admin | April 30, 2025 4:13 PM

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police of the Karnataka government, over the media report of allegedly abduction, rape and murder of a minor girl and the death of the arrested accused in a police encounter in Hubballi, Karnataka. The Commission has also asked for detailed reports within four weeks. NHRC took suo motu cognizance of media reports about the incident.



The Indian Awaaz

**K'taka: NHRC takes suo motu cognizance of rape, murder & custodial death**

<https://theindianawaaz.com/ktaka-nhrc-takes-suo-motu-cognizance-of-rape-murder-custodial-death/>

Apr 30, 2025

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police of the Karnataka government, over the media report of allegedly abduction, rape and murder of a minor girl and the death of the arrested accused in a police encounter in Hubballi, Karnataka. The Commission has also asked for detailed reports within four weeks. NHRC took suo motu cognizance of media reports about the incident.

The Print

**NHRC notices to K'aka govt, DGP over minor's `rape, killing', accused's death in `police encounter'**

<https://theprint.in/india/nhrc-notices-to-ktaka-govt-dgp-over-minors-rape-killing-accuseds-death-in-police-encounter/2609890/>

PTI | 30 April, 2025 04:02 pm IST

New Delhi, Apr 30 (PTI) The NHRC on Wednesday said it has issued notices to the Karnataka government and the state's police chief over reports alleging the abduction, rape and killing of a girl and the death of the accused in a "police encounter" in Hubballi.

The report, sought within four weeks, is expected to include the "post-mortem examination" and "magisterial inquiry reports" of both the deceased, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) said in a statement.

The NHRC has taken "suo-motu cognisance of a media report about the abduction, rape and murder of a minor girl and the death of the arrested accused in a police encounter in Hubballi, Karnataka. Reportedly, the incident happened on April 14", it said.

The commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, indicate a "serious violation of the human rights of the victim minor girl, and the arrested suspected perpetrator, killed in an alleged encounter".

Therefore, the NHRC has issued notices to the chief secretary and director general of police of Karnataka, seeking a detailed report within four weeks, the rights panel said.

According to the media report, published on April 14, soon after the girl's body was found, people protested outside the Ashok Nagar police station, demanding the arrest of the accused, the statement said.

"Reportedly, he was nabbed by the police within hours of the incident and was being taken for questioning when he tried to attack them, resulting in gunshot injuries to him, leading to his death," it added. PTI KND RC

This report is auto-generated from PTI news service. ThePrint holds no responsibility for its content.

Hubli Express

### **Hubballi Encounter Case: NHRC Issues Notice K'taka CS and DGP**

<https://hubliexpress.com/hubballi-encounter-case-nhrc-issues-notice-ktaka-cs-and-dgp/>

By Hubli Express — April 30, 2025 - 10:37 PM

Hubballi: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India has taken a suo motu cognizance of the recent murder of a minor girl and police encounter of the accused that happened in Hubballi.

In a press release, the NHRC said, it has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the DGP calling for a detailed report within four weeks.

The report is expected to include the post-mortem examination and the Magisterial Enquiry Reports of both the deceased, the press release stated.

It further stated in the press release that the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India has taken suo motu cognizance of a media report about the abduction, rape and murder of a minor girl and the death of the arrested accused in a police encounter in Hubballi, Karnataka. Reportedly, the incident happened on 14th April, 2025.

The Commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, raise a serious violation of the human rights of the victim minor girl, and the arrested suspected perpetrator, killed in an alleged encounter. Therefore, the Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Government of Karnataka, calling for a detailed report in the matter within four weeks. The report is expected to include the post-mortem examination and the Magisterial Enquiry Reports of both the deceased, the press statement said.

According to the media report, carried on 14th April, 2025, soon after the girl's body was recovered from the bathroom, the angry residents protested outside Ashok Nagar police station, demanding the arrest of the accused. Reportedly, he was nabbed by the police within hours of the incident and was being taken for questioning when he tried to attack them, resulting in gunshot injuries to him, leading to his death, the NHRC said in a release.

On April 28, State Human Rights Commisison's Chairman Shyam Bhat visited the encounter site, he also sought information from the PSI who shot the accused while he was fleeing after attacking the police. He also visited the house of the victim and sought information from the parents of the victim.

LatestLY

## देश की खबरें | एनएचआरसी ने नाबालिग से 'बलात्कार, हत्या' और मुठभेड़ में आरोपी की मौत पर नोटिस जारी किया

Get Latest हिन्दी समाचार, Breaking News on India at LatestLY हिन्दी. राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) ने बुधवार को कहा कि उसने कर्नाटक सरकार और राज्य के पुलिस प्रमुख को हुबली में एक लड़की के अपहरण, बलात्कार और हत्या तथा "पुलिस मुठभेड़" में आरोपी की मौत से संबंधित खबरों पर नोटिस जारी किया है।

<https://hindi.latestly.com/agency-news/nhrc-issued-notice-on-the-death-of-the-accused-in-rape-murder-and-encounter-of-a-minor-r-2598345.html>

एजेंसी न्यूज़ Bhasha| Apr 30, 2025 06:14 PM IST

नयी दिल्ली, 30 अप्रैल राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) ने बुधवार को कहा कि उसने कर्नाटक सरकार और राज्य के पुलिस प्रमुख को हुबली में एक लड़की के अपहरण, बलात्कार और हत्या तथा "पुलिस मुठभेड़" में आरोपी की मौत से संबंधित खबरों पर नोटिस जारी किया है।

एनएचआरसी ने चार सप्ताह के भीतर रिपोर्ट में दोनों मृतकों की "पोस्टमार्टम जांच" और "मजिस्ट्रेट की जांच रिपोर्ट" प्रस्तुत करने को कहा है।

बयान में कहा गया कि एनएचआरसी ने कर्नाटक के हुबली में एक नाबालिग लड़की के अपहरण, बलात्कार और हत्या तथा गिरफ्तार आरोपी की पुलिस मुठभेड़ में मौत के बारे में मीडिया की खबर का स्वतः संज्ञान लिया है।

एनएचआरसी ने कहा है कि यदि समाचार की विषय-वस्तु सही है, तो यह "पीड़ित नाबालिग लड़की तथा कथित मुठभेड़ में मारे गए गिरफ्तार संदिग्ध अपराधी के मानवाधिकारों का गंभीर उल्लंघन" दर्शाता है।

एनएचआरसी ने कहा कि इसलिए उसने कर्नाटक के मुख्य सचिव और पुलिस महानिदेशक को नोटिस जारी कर चार सप्ताह के भीतर विस्तृत रिपोर्ट मांगी है।

बयान में कहा गया है कि 14 अप्रैल को मीडिया में प्रकाशित समाचार के अनुसार, लड़की का शव मिलने के तुरंत बाद लोगों ने आरोपी की गिरफ्तारी की मांग को लेकर अशोक नगर थाने के बाहर प्रदर्शन किया।

एनएचआरसी ने कहा, "कथित तौर पर, घटना के कुछ ही घंटों के भीतर आरोपी को पुलिस ने पकड़ लिया था और पूछताछ के लिए ले जाया जा रहा था, तभी उसने पुलिस पर हमला करने की कोशिश की, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप उसे गोली लग गई और उसकी मौत हो गई।"

(यह सिंडिकेटेड न्यूज़ फीड से अनएडिटेड और ऑटो-जेनरेटेड स्टोरी है, ऐसी संभावना है कि लेटेस्टली स्टाफ द्वारा इसमें कोई बदलाव या एडिट नहीं किया गया है)

IBC24

## एनएचआरसी ने नाबालिग से 'बलात्कार, हत्या' और मुठभेड़ में आरोपी की मौत पर नोटिस जारी किया

<https://www.ibc24.in/country/nhrc-issues-notice-on-rape-murder-of-minor-and-death-of-accused-in-encounter-3051511.html/amp>

एनएचआरसी ने नाबालिग से 'बलात्कार, हत्या' और मुठभेड़ में आरोपी की मौत पर नोटिस जारी किया

Bhasha

Publish Date - April 30, 2025 / 06:10 PM IST, Updated On - April 30, 2025 / 06:10 PM IST

नयी दिल्ली, 30 अप्रैल (भाषा) राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) ने बुधवार को कहा कि उसने कर्नाटक सरकार और राज्य के पुलिस प्रमुख को हुबली में एक लड़की के अपहरण, बलात्कार और हत्या तथा "पुलिस मुठभेड़" में आरोपी की मौत से संबंधित खबरों पर नोटिस जारी किया है।

एनएचआरसी ने चार सप्ताह के भीतर रिपोर्ट में दोनों मृतकों की "पोस्टमार्टम जांच" और "मजिस्ट्रेट की जांच रिपोर्ट" प्रस्तुत करने को कहा है।

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एनएचआरसी ने कहा कि इसलिए उसने कर्नाटक के मुख्य सचिव और पुलिस महानिदेशक को नोटिस जारी कर चार सप्ताह के भीतर विस्तृत रिपोर्ट मांगी है।

बयान में कहा गया है कि 14 अप्रैल को मीडिया में प्रकाशित समाचार के अनुसार, लड़की का शव मिलने के तुरंत बाद लोगों ने आरोपी की गिरफ्तारी की मांग को लेकर अशोक नगर थाने के बाहर प्रदर्शन किया।

एनएचआरसी ने कहा, "कथित तौर पर, घटना के कुछ ही घंटों के भीतर आरोपी को पुलिस ने पकड़ लिया था और पूछताछ के लिए ले जाया जा रहा था, तभी उसने पुलिस पर हमला करने की कोशिश की, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप उसे गोली लग गई और उसकी मौत हो गई।"

भाषा आशीष पवनेश

पवनेश

Times of India

**State police chief recommends CBI probe into death of minor tribal while in custody at Kalpetta police station**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kozhikode/state-police-chief-recommends-cbi-probe-into-death-of-minor-tribal-while-in-custody-at-kalpetta-police-station/articleshow/120771445.cms>

TNN / Apr 30, 2025, 21:55 IST

Kozhikode: State police chief recommended CBI probe into the death of Gokul, a minor tribal boy who was found hanging in the toilet of Kalpetta police station. According to right to information (RTI) response from state home department, state police chief recommended a CBI investigation to ensure an impartial probe. The reply also said that the proposal was being reviewed by the home department. This information was provided to the RTI request by advocate Kulathur Jaising. He had filed a complaint with the chief secretary requesting a fair investigation into the circumstances leading to Gokul's unnatural death. In response, the home department also sought a report from state police chief. The complaint said that Gokul was kept in police custody without being charged and postmortem procedures recommended by National Human Rights Commission in cases of custodial death were not followed. Govt had ordered a crime branch probe into the death. Gokul, a native of Padivayal colony near Ambalavayal, was taken into custody in connection with the disappearance of a minor girl. Gokul, whom police took into custody from Kozhikode along with the missing girl on the evening of March 31, was kept in custody at Kalpetta station. He was found hanging in the police station's toilet on April 1.

Police initially claimed that Gokul was 18 years old as recorded in the FIR but it later emerged that he was a minor. It emerged that there were multiple lapses by police, including keeping him in custody. Wayanad district police chief Taposh Basumatary submitted a report to Kannur range DIG pointing out lapses, including the lack of oversight by police who failed to monitor Gokul. Two police officers were later suspended from service. Meanwhile, Gokul's family alleged that his death was mysterious. They asked how the boy could hang himself using his shirt. State human rights commission had registered a case in connection with the incident.

Live Law

## **Consider Premature Release Of Prisoners Completing 20 Yrs In Jail If They Have Favourable Report From Advisory Committee: Kerala HC Tells State**

<https://www.livelaw.in/high-court/kerala-high-court/kerala-high-court-premature-release-advisory-committee-290751>

Manju Elsa Isac | 30 April 2025

The Kerala High Court has directed the State to consider the premature release of prisoners who are "deemed to have completed the term of imprisonment" as per Rule 377 of Kerala Prisons and Correctional Services (Management) Rules and if they have got a favourable report from the Advisory Committee for premature release.

The Court directed the State to complete this process within 2 months.

For context, Rule 377 says that the term of imprisonment of a convict, who has been awarded life sentence or whose aggregate punishment for different crimes exceeds 20 years or his punishment under different heads comes up to more than 20 years, their imprisonment shall be deemed to be 20 years for the purpose of this chapter.

A division bench of Justice P. B. Suresh Kumar and Justice Jobin Sebastian in its order said:

"In the circumstances, having regard to the spirit of the decisions of the Apex Court in *Rashidul Jafar* and *In Re: Policy Strategy for Grant of Bail*, we deem it appropriate to direct the Government suo motu, in public interest, to consider the cases of those prisoners who deemed to have completed the term of imprisonment in terms of Rule 377 of 2014 Rules and in whose favour there were recommendations by the Advisory Committee for premature release, as directed in the case of prisoners involved in these matters, within two months from the date of receipt of a copy of this judgment".

The court however clarified that the benefit of this judgment will not be extended to those convicts who were sentenced to imprisonment for a specific period without remission.

The Court gave this direction after noticing that a large number of prisoners who have completed the deemed period of 20 years as mentioned in Rule 377 are still in prisons even though they got a favourable recommendation from the Advisory Committee for premature release.

The Court was considering 2 appeals filed by wives of life convicts who have been under imprisonment for more than 20 years. One of them was convicted of murdering a widow and the other was convicted of killing his mother. Their total period of imprisonment will come up to over 26 years if their period of remission is also taken into account. The Advisory Committee had recommended premature release of the convicts but it was rejected by the Government. The Government rejected the recommendation for release of convicts who murdered a widow saying that he murdered a person who required special

care of the society. The release of the other convict who killed his mother was denied on the ground that he killed a woman. The wives of the convicts had initially approached the Single Bench against the decision of the Government. However, the Single Bench refused to interfere with the decision of the Government. Against this order, they have approached the Division Bench.

The Court relied on *Joseph v State of Kerala* and observed that long term convicts who have deemed to have completed their sentence as per the Kerala Prisons and Correctional Services (Management) Rules cannot be denied the benefit of remission based on the nature of the offence committed by them in the distant past.

“As seen from the extracted passage, it was observed therein that if a prisoner who has completed 20 or 25 years of imprisonment is excluded from consideration for premature release based entirely on the nature of crime committed by him in the past, the same would certainly crush force out of such individual, altogether. It was also observed by the Apex Court in the said case that excluding the premature release of prisoners who have served extremely long periods of incarceration, not only crushes their spirit, and instills despair, but signifies resolve of the society to be harsh and unforgiving and that the same would negate the idea of rewarding a prisoner for good conduct.”

The bench said that the Supreme Court had in essence taken the view that persons involved in offences against women and children are not entitled to premature release at all, is against the scheme of the Act and that long-term convicted prisoners cannot be denied the benefit of remission, having regard to the nature of crime committed by them in the distant past.

Accepting Supreme Court's decision in *Joseph* as binding precedent the bench said, "Joseph is not only the decision rendered at a later point of time, but also one which identifies the core of the issues arising for consideration in matters of this nature and answers the same elaborately and accurately. Needless to say, we accept the decision of the Apex Court in *Joseph* as the binding precedent. We are inclined to hold that long-term convicted prisoners, especially those who deemed to have completed the entire term of imprisonment in terms of the provisions contained in the Act and 2014 Rules, other than those who were sentenced by the convicting courts for imprisonment for a period exceeding 20 years, cannot be denied the benefit of remission having regard to the nature of the offence committed by them in the distant past".

The Court also took into account the guidelines of the National Human Rights Commission which said that even though there can be classification among the life convicts regarding the magnitude, brutality and gravity of the offence, their period of incarceration should not exceed 25 years including remission period even in the worst cases.

The Court said that going by Section 77 of the Kerala Prisons and Correctional Services (Management) Act, the only policy of the State seems to be that well-behaved long-term convicts can be given premature release with the objective of their reformation and



rehabilitation. The Court observed that the fact that the convicts were granted remission for more than 5 years during their period of incarceration is a proof of their good behaviour in the jail. The Court held that though the State has discretion in granting premature release to prisoners, it has to be exercised in a fair, just and reasonable manner.

The Court directed the State to reconsider the release of the 2 convicts within a month in the light of the recommendation of Advisory Committee and the observation of the Supreme Court in Joseph's case.

Amicus Curiae: Adv. Jacob P. Alex

Counsel for the Petitioners: Adv. K. Deepa, George Varghese (Perumpallikuttiyl), Manu Srinath, Lijo John Thampy, Nivedita Muchilote, Riyas M. B

Counsel for the Respondents: Advocates P. Narayanan (Spl G. P)

Case No: WA 1245 of 2024 & Connected Case

Case Title: Prasanna v State of Kerala and Others & Connected Case

Citation: 2025 LiveLaw (Ker) 255

Free press Journal

## **Bhopal Rape & Blackmail Case: MBA Youths Forced Victims To Introduce Other Girls To Gang: Human Trafficking Angle Also Under Probe**

A police official said that there may be possibilities of human trafficking in the case though evidences in this regard were still to be found.

<https://www.freepressjournal.in/bhopal/bhopal-rape-blackmail-case-mba-youths-forced-victims-to-introduce-other-girls-to-gang-human-trafficking-angle-also-under-probe>

Staff Reporter Updated: Wednesday, April 30, 2025, 12:08 PM IST

Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh): The angle of investigation in rape and blackmailing case at Bag Sewania also includes possibilities of human trafficking.

Moreover, the accused were planning to leak obscene videos of victims, police officials investigating into the three cases registered at Bag Sewania, Jehangirabad and Ashoka Garden police stations said.

Police investigations have revealed that the accused not only exploited victims individually but even passed them on to others in the group. Police officials are also investigating if the victims were forced into sexual exploitation by persons who are yet to be named in the FIRs.

A police official said that there may be possibilities of human trafficking in the case though evidences in this regard were still to be found.

The accused have shot multiple obscene videos of victims which they shared with each other on their smartphones. Probe indicates that the accused have also planned to leak these videos to others but were nabbed before they could materialise their plans, officials further said.

All six accused—Farhan Khan aka Faraz, Saad, Sahil, Hamid, Ali and Abrar belong to middle and lower middle class backgrounds. They are students of MBA and other courses but also do part time jobs to earn a living.

Till now police have arrested Farhan, Saad and Sahil and have seized their mobile phones. The phones have been sent to FSL to ascertain if they had deleted other videos. It is worth mentioning that till now four victims have come forward with their complaints.

Two of them are sisters and probe revealed that one of the victims was forced to introduce her younger sister to the accused. The accused even tried to force victims for religious conversions.

Accused were addicted to marijuana

Police investigations revealed that the accused were addicted to marijuana and even forced victims to its consumption before they raped them. Police is probing the role of each accused involved in the racket as it has come to the fore that they played different

roles. Some arranged for drugs, marijuana while others were involved in arranging rooms and taking victims there.

NHRC issues notice to CP

Taking cognisance of rape and blackmailing racket in the state capital, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued notice to the Commissioner of Police on Saturday while demanding a report of the action taken into the case within two weeks.

The notice states that NHRC has learned about an organised crime being committed against female students of a private college in Bhopal. The accused befriended female students, trapped them on pretext of love, raped them and even made their obscene videos.

Hindu

## **NCW forms panel to probe Bhopal rape and blackmail cases: five survivors come out**

The Bhopal police had earlier formed a special investigation team (SIT) which is currently probing the cases.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/madhya-pradesh/ncw-forms-panel-to-probe-bhopal-rape-and-blackmail-cases-five-survivors-come-out/article69510706.ece>

Published - May 01, 2025 04:23 am IST - Bhopal

Mehul Malpani

The National Commission for Women (NCW) on Wednesday formed a probe committee to investigate the multiple cases of alleged rape, filming and blackmailing of college girls after befriending them with 'fake identities' in Madhya Pradesh's Bhopal.

According to the police, at least five survivors have come forward for far and lodged complaints at different police stations in the city, while four men have been arrested who allegedly used "fake identities" to befriend the women through social media or mutual friends.

The Bhopal police had earlier formed a special investigation team (SIT) which is currently probing the cases.

The NCW's three-member panel will be headed by retired IPS officer and former Jharkhand DGP Nirmal Kaur, and will submit a report to the Commission after visiting Bhopal from May 3 to 5.

"Commission chairperson Vijaya Rahatkar took suo moto action on the incident and directed the concerned officials to take immediate action, but considering the seriousness of the facts related to the incident, the chairperson has constituted a three-member committee to investigate the matter. This committee will visit Bhopal from May 3 to May 5, 2025 and after gathering information about the case, will submit a detailed report to the Commission," the NCW said in a statement.

Speaking to The Hindu, Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Bhopal Zone 2, Sanjay Agrawal said that the SIT has identified six accused so far in the case, of which four have been arrested, including the prime accused Farhan Ali. The other three arrested accused have been identified as Sahil, Saad, and Sayyed Ali, who was arrested on Monday, while two men — Abrar and Nabeel — are currently at large.

Mr. Agrawal said that five survivors, including the two sisters who had lodged a complaint at Bhopal's Bag Sewania police station on April 18, have come forward so far.

“Multiple teams are conducting raids to nab the remaining two accused. At present, we believe that these six men had been running this group,” he said, adding that the police are also trying to trace more survivors, if there are any.

While various local reports claimed that the survivors were also forced to convert to Islam, Mr. Agrawal said, “There are different kinds of allegations by different women. Some girls have said that they were forced but we cannot confirm this at the moment and is part of the ongoing investigation.”

Another senior officer, who is part of the SIT, said that private videos and pictures of various women have been found on the mobile phones seized from the accused.

“We were able to reach one of the survivors through digital evidence only. The accused used to share the videos amongst one another,” the officer said, requesting anonymity.

The officer said that the one of the sisters who lodged the first complaint had met Farhan through social media in 2022.

“The girl was studying in a private college at the time and Farhan had studied there earlier. After befriending her, he recorded her private videos and used them to blackmail her into introducing her sister and friends to his friends. Similar pattern has been noticed in the cases that have come to our attention so far,” the officer said, adding that the police are also probing if the accused have any further links.

“The women have alleged rapes at various locations over the years. Some of them, including the first complainant, have also alleged physical assault. It’s a complicated case and we are still following some new leads,” the officer added.

Meanwhile, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has also sought a report from Bhopal Police Commissioner H. C. Mishra.

Earlier on Monday, three of the accused were also heckled by a group of lawyers when they were taken to a court after their arrests.

Before their appearance, the accused were also paraded on the road and made to do squats.

Punjab Kesari

**भूपेंद्र सिंह का एक और कांड! भतीजे के अवैध क्रशर ने बर्बाद की मासूम की जिंदगी, नहीं होने दे रहे कार्रवाई**

<https://m.mp.punjabkesari.in/madhya-pradesh/news/a-child-got-burnt-after-coming-in-contact-with-a-high-tension-line-2143960>

Wednesday, Apr 30, 2025-12:08 PM (IST)

सागर। (देवेंद्र कुमार): मध्य प्रदेश के सागर के खुरई विधानसभा से एक मामला सामने आने आया है। जिसमें एक अवैध गिट्टी क्रेशर खदान के ढेर पर गांव के कुछ बच्चे खेल रहे थे, जिसमें से एक बच्चा विद्युत विभाग की हाइटेशन लाइन की चपेट में आने से झुलस गया। गंभीर रूप से घायल बच्चे के इलाज दौरान एक हाथ काटना पड़ा व एक पैर में गंभीर चोट आई है व वह बच्चा मानसिक रूप से भी बीमार हो गया है। इस मामले में पीड़ित नाबालिग बच्चे के पिता राकेश शुक्ला ने बताया कि 2025 की जनवरी की घटना है और अब तक न तो पुलिस ने एफआईआर दर्ज की व न ही कोई इलाज के लिए सरकारी मदद मिल पाई है।

इलाज में 7 लाख रुपए लग चुके हैं। 4 माह से भटक रहा गरीब पिता ने राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग में गुहार लगाई जिसके आदेश पर संबंधित आरोपी पर एफआईआर के आदेश राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग ने दिए हैं। एक माह बीत जाने के बाद भी पुलिस ने मामला दर्ज नहीं किया। पीड़ित नाबालिग बच्चे के पिता राकेश शुक्ला के गंभीर आरोप हैं कि यह क्रेशर स्थानीय विधायक व पूर्व मंत्री भूपेंद्र सिंह के भतीजे लखन सिंह की है। व इनके प्रभाव के कारण इनकी एफआईआर दर्ज नहीं हो पा रही है।

वहीं इस मामले में मानवीय पहलू भी सामने आया है जिसमें खुरई से वरिष्ठ कांग्रेस नेता अंशुल परिहार ने इस पीड़ित पिता को मीडिया के सामने लाकर पूरे मामले का खुलासा कराया। कांग्रेस नेता अंशुल परिहार का कहना है एक गरीब परिवार अपने बच्चे के लिए न्याय की गुहार लगा रहा है। बच्चे के पिता राकेश शुक्ला का कहना है कि उनको लगातार धमकाया जा रहा है। इस मामले पर कोई भी कार्रवाई नहीं की जा रही है।