Minor girl abducted by some traffickers- Police personnel protecting the traffickers- No course of action till date

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To The Chairman, National Human Rights Commission, Manav Adhikar Bhawan, Block-C, GPO Complex, INA, New Delhi- 110023

Respected Sir,

I want to draw your kind attention towards an incident of abduction and probable trafficking of a minor school student from Hakimpur village under Swarupnagar police station area of North 24 Parganas district and the subsequent police inaction of the Swarupnagar police. The 16-year old girl went missing while she was heading towards school allegedly by few traffickers but despite specific complaints against the perpetrators the police didn't take any initiatives to rescue the victim.

Soma Sarkar (Name changed), a class XI student of Bithari K.P. High School belongs from a poor Scheduled Caste family. Her father, Mr. Monotosh Sarkar is an agricultural labourer at the Indo-Bangladesh border with meager income. On 1.11.19 at around 10:00 am she went out from her house with the purpose to go to school but didn't return home. After thorough search in the neighborhood, Monotosh and his neighbors couldn't find Soma Sarkar (Name changed) anywhere. They also continued searching for her the next day on 02.11.19 and finally went to the Swarupnagar police station on the evening to lodge a complaint.

It has been reported that in another instance Soma Sarkar (Name changed) Sarkar went missing previously, few months ago and later recovered from the house of 17-year old Mijanur Rahman Sardar, a neighbour. A complaint was also lodged in the Swarupnagar police station then with case number - 658/19 dated 01.09.2019 under sections 363/365 of the Indian Penal Code. Mijanur Rahman, his mother Rowsanara Sardar, who lives in Mumbai and Nazrul Sardar, his grandfather, are all allegedly involved in women trafficking, but then Swarupnagar police didn't take any actions against them.

On 02.11.2019, Mr. Monotosh sarkar lodged another complaint against Mijanur Rahman Sardar, his mother and grandfather to the Swarupnagar police station registered with case number - 938/19 dated 02.11.2019 under sections 363/365 of the Indian Penal Code. But when Monotosh and his wife Ms. Rekha Sarkar went to the police to lodge the complaint, they had to face severe verbal abuse from Mr. Tushar Kanti Biswas, the Officer-in-Charge of the Swarupnagar police station. Mr. Biswas used slangs against Ms. Rekha Sarkar comparing her to a prostitute. The police didn't take any actions against the perpetrators till date and took almost no initiative to rescue the minor girl. About three weeks after the complaint was lodged, ASI Ashoke Das from Swarupnagar police is searching for her daughter but couldn't find her and then left.

India has substantial legislations dealing with kidnapping and abduction of women and girl and subsequent trafficking for immoral purposes and the mentioned area of Indo- Bangladesh bordering district is infamous for trafficking of girls for immoral purposes but shockingly the law enforcement agency having responsibility to investigate this malice and rescue the affected girls are sitting idle, most of the time their inaction is basically acquiescence with the offenders.

This incident and subsequent inaction of police drew severe violation of related sections and rules of The Immoral Traffic Prevention Act, 1986, The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 and The Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences Rules, 2012, further the inaction of police was against the pledge; which the Government of India has taken during the Fourth World Conference on Women; known as Beijing Declaration; where the government had said that they are determined to Prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls

Under such circumstances we sincerely urge your urgent intervention and request for necessary actions to extend justice to the affected family and the girl.

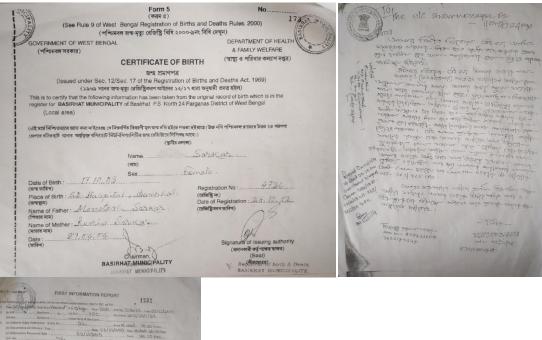
- Take immediate steps to rescue the victim girl
- Take necessary steps to apprehend the perpetrators and bring them to justice
- Disciplinary actions against the OC, Swarupnagar
- Ensure safety of the victim and her family

Thank you. Yours Sincerely,

Dipyaman Adhikary Assistant Secretary, Banglar Manabadhikar Suraksha Mancha (MASUM)

Attached Documents Photo of victim Aadhar card of victim Birth certificate of victim complaint from victim's father First Information Report from Swarupnagar Police Station





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