

14.08.2020

To The Chairperson National Human Rights Commission Manav Adhikar Bhawan Block- C, GPO complex, INA New Delhi – 110023

Respected Sir,

Here I want to draw your kind attention upon one incident of custodial death of one male belongs to Scheduled Caste community in the Jail custody at Dum Dum Central Correctional Home. This incident proves another time that how the police personnel torture upon an accused to confess his guilt and irresponsible attitude of the jail authority who are enjoying full impunity after causing to death of the victim and irresponsible behavior towards the family members of the victim.

In this incident one male was falsely charged in the case of murder of Mrs. Tapati Mondal, W/O Ujjal Mondal residing at village Shibpur under Bangaon Police Station. It is to be noted that the victim is the brother of Mrs. Tapati whose body was found in fully burned condition from a pile of jute sticks which was also burned. The incident occurred on 18.12.2019. Bongaon Police registered a case of murder of Mrs. Tapati. The victim was arrested on 20.12.2019 at about 2.30 am from his own house by police personnel of Bangaon Police Station. In Police custody brutal torture was inflicted upon the victim. From Police custody he was transferred to Jail custody after eight days of his arrest. He was transferred to Dum Dum Central Correctional Home and on 28.01.2020 he breathed his last there. In fact finding details I narrate the details of the incident.

It is alleged that the jail authority did not timely taken the victim to the hospital for medical treatment. His family was not informed when his health condition deteriorated and even after his death they did not inform the family members. Dum Dum Police Station started an unnatural death case number 07/2020 dated 28.01.2020. It is also alleged that the inquest of the deceased victim was not done by any Judicial Magistrate which is completely violated of section 176 (1A) of the Code of Criminal Procedure where it is stated in case of custodial death, inquest should be done by a Judicial Magistrate.

It is to be noted that on 23.01.2020 Supreme Court of India issued notice to the Centre and States on implementation of section 176 (1A). But the present position is still same as in previous. The matter is a grave one which proves the collapse of Criminal Justice System in the State of West Bengal.

The involved perpetrators violated basic premise of Article 21 of Indian Constitution as well as the international obligations stated in Article 6 (1) and 7 of International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as well as the Goal number 8 and 16 of Sustainable Development Goal

earmarked by United Nations and in both these international instruments; the government of India is a party and have agreement.

I am appending a brief account of the incident for your easy reference and demand for -

- An urgent and independent investigation, not by Bongaon Police Station, over the incident.
- Stern penal action should be taken against Sub Inspector of Bangaon Police Station Mr. Paritosh Halder and one Mr. Prasenjit, a police person who was torturing upon the victim during his police custody.
- The erring police personnel of jail authority, and other police personnel relating to this case who try to hide the truth of the case must be booked under appropriate legal provisions and be tried in open court of law.
- The Unnatural Death case initiated by Dum Dum Police Station on 28.01.2020 must be investigated properly under the appropriate penal provision.
- This case should be investigated by investigation wing of NHRC or state CID.
- Disciplinary action should be taken against those police officials who being known this case as a custodial death, not to inform any judicial magistrate for inquest the deceased body.
- NHRC's 'Revised Guidelines/ Procedures to be followed in courses of deaths caused in police action' must be adhered in letter and spirit.
- The family must be provided with financial compensation and adequate safety and security of the family members and witnesses must be ensured.

Sincerely Yours

Dipyoman Alli

Dipyaman Adhikary

Assistant Secretary

Banglar Manabadhikar Suraksha Mancha (MASUM)

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Details of the victim- Mr. Bhim Mondal (deceased), Son of Triptipada Mondal, Santilata Mondal, residing at village Shibpur, P.O. Monigram, P.S. Bongaon, District- North 24 Pargana

Details of secondary victims- (1) Lovely Mondal, wife of Bhim Mondal, aged about 25 years; (2) Rupam Mondal, son of Bhim Mondal, aged about 10 years; (3) Santilata Mondal, mother of Bhim Mondal, aged about 65 years. All are residing at village Shibpur, P.O. Monigram, P.S. Bongaon, District- North 24 Pargana

Details of Perpetrators – (1) On duty police personnel of Dum Dum Central Correctional Home; (2) Mr. Paritosh Halder, Sub Inspector of Police Bangaon Police Station and one Mr. Prasenjit, a police person of Bangaon Police Station.

Date and Time of the Incident – On 20.12.2019 at about 2.30 am and subsequent thereafter.

Place of the incident – Bangaon Police Station and Dum Dum Central Correctional Home.

Details of incident- On 20.12.2019 at about 2.30 am Mr. Bhim Mondal was arrested by the police personnel of Bangaon Police Station from the house of the victim. Police of Bangaon Police Station arrested the victim on suspicion that the victim was somehow connected in a murder case of Mrs. Tapati Mondal bearing Bangaon Police station case number 1019/2019 dated 20.12.2019 under section 302/102 of Indian Penal Code.

Family members of the victim told to our District Human Rights Monitor that on 20.12.2019 at about 2.30 am one sub inspector from Bangaon Police Station namely Mr. Paritosh Halder arrested the victim from his own house when the victim was sleeping. It is to be mentioned that Mrs. Tapati Mondal, wife of Mr. Ujjal Mondal is the sister of the victim whose body was found in fully burned condition from a pile of jute sticks. Bangaon Police Station registered one case bearing Bangaon Police Station case number 1019/2019 dated 20.12.2019 under section 302/102 of Indian Penal Code and on suspicion arrested Mr. Bhim Mondal, Mr. Panchanan Sarkar and Mr. Prasenjit Pramanick.

On the said day i.e, on 20.12.2019 the victim was produced before the Chief Judicial Magistrate of Bangaon Court Bangaon police where on the request of the prosecution, Chief Judicial Magistrate granted 8 days police custody of the victim. During the time of police custody the victim was brutally tortured. Sub Inspector of Bangaon Police Station Mr. Paritosh Halder and another police person namely Mr. Prasenjit everyday took the victim one room in the first floor of the Bangaon Police Station and mercilessly tortured upon him to confess the guilt. They put chilli powder in the anus of the victim. He was beaten with sticks, kicks, slaps and fists. The victim was again produced in Bangaon court and the Magistrate directed to send the victim to the jail custody. He was transferred to Bangaon jail and after 6 days he was shifted to Dum Dum Central Correctional Home.

During the time when he was in Bangaon jail, he told to his family members that the police personnel of Bangaon police station tortured upon him and they put chilli powder in his anus. When he was transferred to Dum Dum Central Correctional Home, he told to his wife that he will not live longer as his stomach and anus hurt a lot. The family members requested to the jail authority for proper treatment of the victim but they did not care to listen to them.

On 28.01.2020 the victim was died in the Dum Dum Central Correctional Home. What is astonishing that the Correctional Home Authority did not inform the family members of the victim about the death of Mr. Bhim Mondal. On the same day mother of the victim Mrs. Santilata Mondal went to the Dum Dum central correctional Home to see her son. But she heard from there that her son was died. She had not been permitted to see the dead body of her son.

Dum Dum Central Correctional Home Authority asked to sign the victim's mother on some documents. Victim's mother was not agreed to do so but the jail authority pressurized upon her and told if she did not sign on those documents, they would not deliver the dead body of her son.

It is alleged that the inquest of the deceased was not done by any Judicial Magistrate. Here section 176(1A) of Code of Criminal Procedure clearly stipulates that in case of Custodial death Judicial Magistrate will inquest the body, here administration failed to follow the procedure.

On 13.08.2020 at about 1.45 pm from MASUM office we contacted with Dum Dum Police Station over telephone. The duty officer informed us that during the time of inquest of Mr. Bhim

Mondal one Sub Inspector of Dum Dum Police Station namely Mr. Swapan Roy was presented there. He provided us the contact number of Mr. Swapan Roy for more information. We tried to contact him several times but he is not picking up the phone.

Dum Dum Police started an Unnatural Death case bearing Dum Dum Police Station U/D case number 07/2020 dated 28.01.2020 in respect of the custodial death of Mr. Bhim Mondal.

On 29.01.2020 the post mortem examination of the deceased victim was done in the morgue of Sagar Dutta Hospital, Kolkata bearing PME number 43/2020 dated 29.01.2020.

Family of the victim is waiting for justice to punish the perpetrators who directly or indirectly involved in murdering an innocent man in their custody.

Attached Documents

Picture of deceased and his family members



Video link of statement of Ms. Labhli Mondal (Wife of deceased) https://youtu.be/YP03CDoL3y0

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Death Certificate issued from Dum Dum Central Jail

Post Mortem Report

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Complaint before Superintendent of Dumdum central jail by deceased mother