

Sushma
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No. PHQ/PET-CELL/AGAS-18/08/ 2007/2008.
Office of the Director General of Police, PHQ.
Panaji Goa. Date: 16/09/2008.

618/Gen 1208
23/09/08

To,
The Research Officer,
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes,
Government of India,
6th Floor, 'B' Wing, Lok Nayak Bhawan,
Khan Market, New Delhi - 110 003.

Sub: Alleged molestation of ST woman Sarpanch of VP Siridao
Palem, Tiswadi Goa.

Ref: File No. SGK/ATROCITY/GOA/2008/678/RU-IV
dated 23.08.2008.

No (RU-IV)
Post

Sir,

With reference to the above, detail enquiries were conducted into the petition of Smt. Sushma G. Kankonkar, Sarpanch, V.P. Siridao-Palem, Tiswadi Goa through the Superintendent of Police, North Goa and it revealed as under:

The petitioner has alleged that on 27.07.2008 when she was presiding over the Gram Sabha meeting in the capacity of the Sarpanch of Village Panchayat of Siridao Palem, a group of 15 goondas and 10 females Gram Sabha members started abusing the Sarpanch, Dy. Sarpanch and the V.P. Secretary of Siridao Palem. The panch member Sydney II Afonso and another assaulted her and outraged her modesty by pulling her hands, hair and tearing her churidar. She has requested for justice and informed that she belongs to the ST Community.

Enquiries conducted revealed that on 27.07.2008 an offence vide Agacaim PS Cr. No. 41/08 u/s 353, 332, 427, 504 r/w 34 IPC stands registered upon the complaint of Mr. Lency Dias Juliao, Secretary of Village Panchayat, Siridao, Palem to the effect that on 27.07.2008 between 12.30 hrs. to 13.00 hrs. at Siridao Village Panchayat, accused (1) Johny Fernandes (2) Jose Marques and (3) Sidney Afonso in furtherance of their common intention gave filthy words and accused No. 1 assaulted the complainant with fist blows on his back and accused No. 2 presses his testis and accused No. 3 assaulted Sarpanch Mrs. Sushma w/o Nirdesh Gauns (petitioner) by punching on her during which her chudidar sleeves got torn while the Gram Sabha was going on.


During the course of investigation, statements of witnesses who were present at the scene of incident were recorded. Accused Johny Fernandes (2) Jose Marquis (3) Sidney Afonso and (4) Antoneth Marques all r/o Siridao were arrested on 01.08.2008 at 11.35 hrs. and released on bail on same day at 14.25 hrs.

On 09.08.2008, Agacaim Police Station received a registered A.D. letter from the Sarpanch of V.P. Siridao Pale on the letter head of V.P. Siridao vide Ref. No. VP/SP/299/08-09 dated 29.07.2008 stating that while she was presiding the Gram Sabha of Siridao Pale Village Panchayat, one of the Gram Sabha member, Mr. Caitan Gonsalves r/o Siridao an elected Panch Member, Mr. Gurudas R. Naik, Panch of Ward No. 3 of V.P Siridao abused her with filthy language and intentionally insulted her by saying "Hai Gawadekoddan Panchayat Cholouk dillea, tea kite Panchayat Choloitolea". They uttered these words loudly in front of the public during Gram Sabha held on 27/07/2008 intentionally insulting and humiliating her by calling her caste "Gawada".

Since the above accused persons humiliated and insulted the Sarpanch by calling her caste in public view, thereby Section 3 of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 is added to the crime after discussing with the Director of Prosecution, Panaji.

Further investigation of the case is conducted by SDPO Panaji.

Yours faithfully,


(V.V. Chaudhary, IPS)
Sr. Superintendent of Police,
Vigilance Officer,
PHQ, Panaji Goa.

Copy to:
The Director of Social Welfare &
Ex-Officio Joint Secretary,
Government of Goa,
Directorate of Social Welfare,
Panaji Goa. (w.r. to No. 62-3-06-BC (22 A)/415 dated 13.08.2008)