

राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

(भारत के संविधान के अनुच्छेद 338क के अंतर्गत एक संवैधानिक निकाय) (A Constitutional body under Article 338A of the Constitution of India)

Case File No. NCST/ATY-903/OR/1/2023-APCR

Dated: 19.06.2023

To,

- 1 Shri Vineet Bhardwaj
 Collector And District Magistrate,
 Dist-Mayurbhanj,,
 At/Po-Baripada,,
 Mayurbhanj, Odisha 757001
 Email Id: dm-mayurbhanj@nic.in
- Shri Bhattula Gangadhar
 Superintendent Of Police,
 Dist-Mayurbhanj,,
 District Police Office,
 At/Po-Baripada,,
 Mayurbhanj, Odisha 757001
 Email Id: spmbj.orpol@nic.in

Subject: Press clipping published in Odia Newspaper "The Pratibadi" "The Prameya", "The Pratidina" and Odia Electronics Media Argus TV dated 23.01.2023 regarding suicide of Shri Raja Panipatra R/o Saradiha under Dhatika GP in Mayurbhanj District, Odisha after torturing by Suliapada Police.

Sir.

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the Minutes of the Sitting held on 29.05.2023 at State Guest House, Bhubaneswar under the Chairmanship of Shri Ananta Nayak, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes on the above mentioned subject for necessary action. It is requested that compliance report may be submitted to this Commission within 30 days positively for placing the same before the Hon'ble Commission.

Encl: as above

Yours faithfully,

(अंकित कुमार सेन / Ankit Kumar Sen) अनुसंधान अधिकारी/ Research Officer

MCST - MIC

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

No. NCST / ATY-903 / OR / 1 / 2023-APCR

Minutes of the Sitting held under the Chairmanship of Shri Ananta Nayak, Hon'ble Member, NCST on Press clipping published in Odia Newspaper "The Pragatibadi" "The Prameya", "The Pratidina" and Odia Electronics Media Argus TV dated 23.01.2023 regarding suicide of Shri Raja Panipatra R/o Saradiha under Dhatika GP in Mayurbhanj District, Odisha after torturing by Suliapada Police.

Date of the Sitting: 29.05.2023 at 10:30 AM

List of Participants: As per Annexure

The Commission went through a highly disturbing and perturbing press clipping of Odia Newspaper "The Pratibadi" "The Prameya", "The Pratidina" and Odia Electronics Media Argus TV dated 23.01.2023 regarding suicide of Shri. Raja Panipatra in Mayurbhanj District, Odisha after severe torture and third degree by Suliapada Police.

Considering the issue, a gigantic and grave one, the issue the Commission took Suo Moto cognizance of the case and issued Notice dated 20.01.2023 to the Director General of Police ("DGP"), Government of Odisha to take necessary action and submit the Action Taken Report ("ATR") within 03 days.

Since the Commission did not receive ATR from the DGP, Summons were issued to the Collector and District Magistrate, Mayurbhanj, Odisha and the Superintendent of Police, Mayurbhanj, Odisha respectively to appear before the Commission for Sitting at the State Guest house, Bhubaneshwar, Odisha on 29.05.2023 at 10:30 AM.

On 29.05.2023 the Collector and District Magistrate, Mayurbhanj, Odisha was not present. But through the ADM, requested for exemption from personal appearance which has been denied. Shri. Umashhankar Maharana, Additional Superintendent of Police, Mayurbhanj, Odisha ("Addl SP") was present on behalf of the Superintendent of Police, Mayurbhani, Odisha.

During the course of hearing on 29.05.2023 the Commission asked the Addl SP on the status of investigation. Shri. Umashankar Maharana, Additional Superintendent of Police submitted that on 20.01.2023, Shri. Raja Panipatra ("deceased"), was called upon by the police for investigation and obtaining information about Shri. Panchanan Dehury ("accused") in the alleged murder of Smt. Sambhu Dehury since he was friends with the accused.

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On investigation, it was found that Smt. Sambhu Dehury was earlier living with the deceased but due to continuous disputes in the house, they separated and thereafter Smt. Sambhu Dehury started living with the accused. Before he came to know about the news of murder of Smt. Sambhu Dehury, the deceased, on request of the accused dropped him off at Jaleswar. The deceased and the police authorities, visited Jaleswar but could not find the accused. Thereafter, the deceased left the police station at 04:30 pm on the same day. On 22.01.2023 at 09:20 am, the police received information that the deceased had committed suicide by hanging from a Gambhari tree situated at the back of his house. Thereafter the police visited the spot and sent the deceased's body for the post mortem ("PM"). The cause of death as per the PM report is stated as "combined effect of ashyria and venous congestion as a result of ante mortem hanging". There was no torture by the police...

The Commission asked the police authority if compensation was provided to the family of the deceased after his death. Shri. Umashhankar Maharana, Addl SP submitted that he is not aware if compensation has been paid.

The Commission expressed serious disappointment over the lackadaisical attitude of the authorities in submitting ATR after such an incident extensively reported by media. The Commission further expressed dissatisfaction and uncertainty in the investigation and report of the police authorities.

After the hearing, the Commission recommends the following: -

 The Investigation team of the Commission's shall visit the place of incidence, interact with the family members and other persons, examine the records and other evidences if required for fact-finding and investigation and submit the report to the Commission within 30 days.

> अनंत नायक/ANANTA NAYAK सदस्य/Member राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आगार

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NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

F. No. NCST/ATY-903/OR/1/2023-APCR

Dated: 29.05.2023

Sub: Press clipping published in odia Newspaper "The Pratibadi", "The Prameya", "The Pratidina" and Odia Electronics Media Argus TV Dated 23.01.2023 regarding suicide of Shri Raja Panipatra R/o Saradhia under Dhatika GP In Mayurbhnaj District, Odisha after torturing Sulipada Police

S. No.	Name	Designation	Mob. No. & Office No.	Signature
1.	Shri Ananta Nayak	Hon'ble Member		In Chair
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5.	Shi D.K. Ralen	WOCTROBBIE		
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	The	Superintendent Of Mayurbhanj, Odis		
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3		Petitioner		
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