

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

No. Attro/1/2009/STGPB/ATOTH/RU-I

**Proceedings of Sitting with Punjab Police of Shri Maurice
Kujur, Hon'ble Vice Chairman, NCST at 1130 Hrs
on 30-08-2010**

ISSUE

Non-payment of wages and forceful confinement of Miss Kusum Ekka by her employer Shri Jaspreet Singh, Mohali.

BACKGROUND

A representation dated 13/03/2009 was received from Shri Sylvester Kujur, Akhil Bhartiya Sangharsh Morcha, New Delhi alleging forceful confinement and non payment of wages to Miss Kusum Ekka by her employer Shri Jaspreet Singh. It was mentioned that Miss Kusum Ekka was employed through Rajdhani Placements, New Delhi with Shri Jaspreet Singh on 28.10.2007 for caring their baby of 2 months. The monthly salary was fixed for Rs.1200/-. After the completion of contract period of 11 months, the girl was not released. It was further mentioned that after 11 months Shri Munna, the owner of the placement agency, sent his staff to bring Miss Kusum Ekka, even then she was neither released nor let the staff met her. Shri Jaspreet was tried a number of times over phone, but staff of placement agency could not talk to Miss Kusum Ekka. In these circumstances, placement agency has a doubt that Miss Ekka would have been forcefully confined by her employer and requested for her release and payment of wages.

The matter was taken up with the DGP, Punjab vide this Commission letter dated 30/04/2009, followed by reminder dated 18/06/2010, but there was no reply from them.

In view of the above, Hon'ble Vice Chairman decided to have a discussion with the concerned officials and parties on 30/08/2010 at 1130 hrs in the Commission.

In the mean time, an e-mail was received from Shri Jaspreet Singh, mentioning that Miss Kusum Ekka was with them and safe. She was like a family member and staying with them with her own will. Regarding payment, whenever they were sending payment, it was not reaching parents of Miss Kusum Ekka. He had mentioned that they are ready to make payment as due so that it could reach her parents and moreover, they take full responsibility of her medication (if required), marriage and everything which were important necessities of life.

मोरीस कुजुर/MAURICE KUJUR
उपाध्यक्ष/Vice-Chairperson
राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
भारत सरकार Govt. of India
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

Maurice Kujur

DISCUSSION

Shri Sylvester Kujur, petitioner informed that he received a complaint from Shri Munna Chowdhary, owner of Rajdhani Placements, New Delhi that Miss Kusum Ekka had not come back after completion of the contractual period and her salary was also not received. Moreover, they had a doubt that she might have been confined forcefully by her employer.

The Commission asked Shri Sylvester Kujur, whether the placement agency was registered or otherwise. He expressed his inability to confirm. The Commission also enquired from Miss Kusum Ekka about the facts, to which she replied that she was staying there willingly and had no problem with her employer. Moreover, she expressed that she doesn't want to go back to the placement agency.

Shri Jaspreet Singh and his father mentioned that they were treating Miss Kusum Ekka like their family member and ready to make payment as they may be advised. Moreover, they have no objection, if she goes to meet her parents on leave. The Commission suggested that periodically salary of Miss Kusum Ekka should also be increased, which was agreed by Shri Jaspreet Singh and confirmed that they will increase her salary to Rs. 1500/- p.m. w.e.f September, 2010.

The Commission was informed by SSP, SAS Nagar that in their enquiry it was revealed that Miss Kusum Ekka was staying there willingly and without any pressure. The Commission expressed its displeasure that even after a reminder there was no response from the Punjab Police in the matter. The SSP informed that as per communication available from Addl DGP office, Commission had been informed. He further handed over reports in the matter to the Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

The Commission recommended that an account to be opened in a Bank and salary due to her to be remitted in that account and confirmation to this effect to be intimated to the Commission and Punjab Police. The Commission further recommended that a confirmation from Delhi Police and Govt. of NCT of Delhi be submitted by the Rajdhani Placements, New Delhi regarding its registration.

Maurice Kujur

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ANNEXURE

The following were present in the sitting on 30.08.2010:

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

1. Shri Maurice Kujur, Hon'ble Vice Chairman**In Chair**
2. Shri Aditya Mishra, Jt. Secretary
2. Shri Vinod Aggarwal, Director
3. Shri K. C. Behera, PS to VC

Punjab Police

1. Shri G. P. S. Bhullar, SSP, SAS Nagar
2. Ms. Raka Ghirra, DSP (City-I), SAS Nagar

Petitioner

1. Shri Sylvester Kujur

Alleged Victim

1. Miss Kusum Ekka

Employer of Miss Ekka

1. Shri Jaspreet Singh
2. Shri Pritam Singh, F/o Shri Jaspreet Singh