



WEST BENGAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

PURTA BHAVAN (2ND FLOOR), BLOCK-DF,
SECTOR-I, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA - 700 091

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Ref. No. : 09/WBHRC/2019-2020

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REJOINDER TO

BARTAMAN NEWS ITEM DATE 21.10.2019

Apropos of the news item dated 21st October, 2019 published in the vernacular daily Bartaman under the caption “নেই জুডিশিয়াল মেম্বার, নিয়মিত শুনানি হচ্ছে না রাজ্য মানবাধিকার কমিশনে,” the Commission deems it proper to issue the following clarification to avoid any misgiving amongst the general public. It is true that Judicial Member ceased to hold office on 7th April, 2019 and the vacancy is yet to be filled up. It is not however true that due to the aforesaid vacancy hearing of the complaints or investigation thereof has in any way been affected.

It is also not true that the number of complaints have declined since office of the West Bengal Human Rights Commission was shifted from Bhabani Bhavan. Office of the Commission was relocated at Purta Bhavan on 24th February, 2014. The complaints received between 2014 & 2019 are as follows:

1. 2014-15 (01.04.2014 – 31.03.15)	7154
2. 2015-16(01.04.2015 – 31.03.16)	9043
3. 2016-17(01.04.2016 – 31.03.17)	8672
4. 2017-18(01.04.2017-31.03.18)	9088
5. 2018-19(01.04.2018 -31.03.19)	9277



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It is also not true that the number of cases where the Commission took cognizance suo motu has declined. The number of cases in which, suo motu cognizance was taken during the period 2014 & 2019 are as follows:

1. 2014-15	38
2. 2015-16	81
3. 2016-17	174
4. 2017-18	130
5. 2018-19	186

It is equally untrue to say that the Commission has lost or is in the process of losing its utility or credibility. The truth, on the contrary, is that the Commission has continuously been improving its performance.

Ld. Registrar, WBHRC is directed to upload the matter in the website. A copy be communicated to the Editor, Bartaman.

(Justice Girish Chandra Gupta)
Chairperson

(Naparajit Mukherjee)
Member

SDB