



WEST BENGAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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Ref. No. 731/WBHRC/COM/1473/16-17

Date: 6.7.18

Recommendation No 1,2 & 3/WBHRC/2018-19/COM/1473/16-17

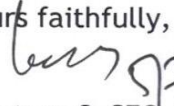
From: Shri Laima Chozah IAS,  
Secretary & CEO.

To: The Chief Secretary  
Government of West Bengal  
NABANNA  
325, Sarat Chatterjee Road  
Mandirtala, P.O.- Shibpur,  
Howrah-711102

Sir,

I am directed to send herewith an authenticated copy of the Recommendations dated 06.06.2018 made by the West Bengal Human Rights Commission for taking necessary action. The recommendations are self-explanatory.

Action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government on the recommendations may please be intimated to the Commission within 3(three) months.

Yours faithfully,  
  
Secretary & CEO.

## NOTE SHEET

File No. 1473/WBHCRC/SMC/2017

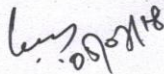
Date: 06. 06. 2018

Suo Motu cognizance was taken on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 by the Commission of a news item published by the Statesman under the caption "Power bills unpaid, dispensary shut for 2 yrs". From the news item it appeared that Dakshin Dinajpur Zilla Parishad had set up a dispensary in the year 2009 for providing free medical support to the residents of the area. Two doctors were appointed. The dispensary was functioning smoothly between 2009 and 2014. After April, 2014 power supply was disconnected and service at the aforesaid dispensary had been disrupted. Sabhadhipati of Dakshin Dinajpur Zilla Parishad Smt. L. Tigga allegedly said "we don't have any information about the dispensary. I will personally look into the matter to resolve the problem".

A report dated 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2017 from the Addl. District Magistrate, Dakshin Dinajpur was received from which it appeared that the dispensary is operational twice a week i.e. on Tuesday and Friday. Dr. Debabrata Ghosh and Dr. Himangshu Barman attend the dispensary. The permanent Group D staff Ramchandra Debnath had retired with effect from 31.03.2013. Before his retirement the dispensary used to remain open every day. After the retirement of Sri Ramchandra Debnath a temporary sweeper has been appointed on daily wage basis @ Rs. 20 to 30/- per day for the days when the doctors attend. It was confirmed that there is no electricity at the dispensary.

Considering the report dated 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2017 an order dated 18<sup>th</sup> July was passed by the Commission directing District Magistrate, Dakshin Dinajpur to ascertain whether prior to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2013 free treatment was made available every day by the aforesaid dispensary. Pursuant to the aforesaid order, a report dated 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 has been received from the Addl. District Magistrate, Dakshin Dinajpur who in his turn has enclosed to his report a report prepared by the Secretary, Dakshin Dinajpur Zilla Parishad which does not inspire any confidence. The said report is based on alleged statements allegedly made by the villagers which is not backed by any documentary evidence. The statements prima facie appear to have been procured on plain papers. It appears from the news item that the dispensary was set up by the

Authenticated



Leima Chozah, I.A.S.  
Secretary & C.E.O.  
West Bengal Human Rights Commission  
&  
Principal Secretary to the Government

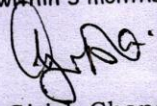
## NOTE SHEET

Dakshin Dinajpur Zilla Parishad in the year 2009. Therefore, there could not have been any occasion for the aforesaid dispensary to render any service in the year 2006-07 or 2007-08. From the report dated 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2017 it appears that there was a permanent group D staff at the aforesaid dispensary who retired on 31.03.2013. It also appears from that report that prior to the retirement of Sri Debnath the dispensary used to remain open every day. The question raised by the Commission should have been answered on the basis of documents including books of account maintained by the concerned dispensary and Dakshin Dinajpur Zilla Parishad and not on the basis of hearsay evidence of some persons who may not have any knowledge about the working of the said dispensary.

The Commission, in the circumstances, makes the following recommendations:

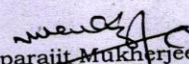
- (a) A group 'D' staff in the place and stead of Sri Ramchandra Debnath be forthwith appointed so that the vacancy is filled up.
- (b) The outstanding dues of electricity should be paid so that electricity is restored.
- (c) Adequate nos of doctors and nurses should be appointed in the dispensary so that the same remains operational everyday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

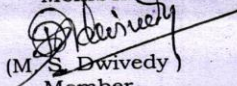
Principal Secretary, WBHRC to communicate the authenticated copy of recommendation to the Chief Secretary, Govt of West Bengal for taking appropriate action for implementation of recommendations and he is requested to communicate action taken report on the recommendations to this Commission within 3 months.

  
(Justice Girish Chandra Gupta)  
Chairperson

Authenticated

  
Laima Chozah, I.A.S.  
Secretary & C.E.O.  
West Bengal Human Rights Commission  
Principal Secretary to the Government of West Bengal

  
(Napanarajit Mukherjee)  
Member

  
(M. S. Dwivedy)  
Member

SDB