

WEST BENGAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

File No.27/SMC/2021

Present

Shri Naparajit Mukherjee - Member

The West Bengal Human Rights Commission consisting of Shri G.C. Gupta, Chairman and Shri N. Mukherjee, Member took cognizance on 20/1/2021 and called for a report from Supdt. of Police, Paschim Medinipur, regarding a news item appearing in Ganashakti, a Bengali Daily dt.20/1/2021 (enclosed).

2. The Daily reported that 41 (forty one) adivasi families, who have been evicted, are spending their livelihood under a culvert. It further elaborated that while undertaking expansion of Ghatal-Chandrakona road the adivasi families were evicted from their land which was to be utilized for road expansion. The news item further stated that these adivasi families were promised rehabilitation but the same has not been given.

3. Supdt. of Police, Paschim Medinipur forwarded the enquiry report of S.DP.O., Ghatal vide his Memo No.802/SDPO/(G) dt.08/4/2021 to the Commission.

4. According to the report (enclosed) it is stated that 7 (seven) adivasi families consisting of 41 family members were residing on road side land of P.W.D. for several years. These adivasi families were evicted during road extension work. According to the report, B.D.O., Chandrakona - I promised them to rehabilitate on a khas plot of land and some land was selected near Diasha Gramin Samsan but these adivasi families did not agree to this particular land for rehabilitation. The government officials, though assured them for seeking further land but the process is yet to be completed. First

installment of Rs.60,000/- has been disbursed to adivasi families for their rehabilitation.

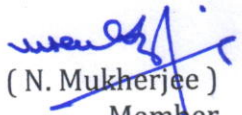
5. The Commission has examined this report. Apparently, the adivasi families are yet to be rehabilitated and their houses re-built. Further, Rs.60,000/- has been disbursed to such families as first installment for demolition of their houses and eviction but rest amount is pending.

6. In view of above, the Commission recommends that (a) The adivasi families should be rehabilitated on suitable plot of land with immediate effect.

(b) Adequate monetary compensation to the tune of Rs.5,00,000/- (Rupees five lakh) only to each family should be given over and above Rs.60,000/- already disbursed, since this is a very meager amount.

Special Secretary and C.E.O. is directed to communicate the recommendation to the Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal after authentication.

The Chief Secretary is requested to send action taken report with 3 (three) months of receipt of this recommendation.


(N. Mukherjee)
Member
22/09/2022

Enco :

1. Copy of news item dt.20/1/2021.
2. Report of S.P., DEB, Paschim Medinipur along with all enclosure.