

Dated, the 2nd January, 2017

Use of the expression "Human Rights Commission" or "National Human Rights Commission" or the abbreviation NHRC or HRC or WBHRC by anyone except the Statutory Authorities themselves is likely to create confusion and is also likely to be misused to the detriment of the public in general. We have come across an NGO, functioning under the name and style of 'National Human Rights Convenor of India'. The logo used by the aforesaid NGO is also deceptively similar to that of this statutory body.

The Commission is of the opinion that the matter should be brought to the notice of the State Government for making suitable state amendment to the Societies Registration Act 1860. Section 3 of the aforesaid Act contains provisions for registration and fees. Many States in the country have made state amendments to Section 3 of the said Act to stop malpractices by accident or by choice. The amendment made by the State of Assam appears to be in order to us. Reference in this regard may also be made to Section 572 of the Companies Act. We recommend an identical or such other amendment as the State Legislature may think fit and proper so as to avoid misuse of the name of the Statutory Authorities created under The Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 and such authorities which may be in need of such protection.

Sd/

(Justice Girish Chandra Gupta)
Chairperson

Sd/

(Naparajit Mukherjee)
Member

Sd/

(M. S. Dwivedy)
Member

Recommendation be sent to the Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal.

Sd/
Registrar