

W.B. HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION
KOLKATA-27

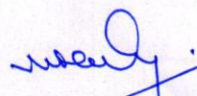
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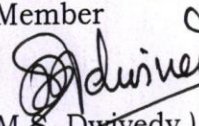
Date: 12. 10. 2018

Enclosed is the news clipping of 'The Times of India,' an English daily dated 12th October, 2018, the news item is captioned "**Cops beat up student over 'solicitation'**".

Deputy Commissioner of Police, South Division is directed to enquire into the matter and to furnish a report to the Commission by 22nd November, 2018.

(Justice Girish Chandra Gupta)
Chairperson

 : 12/10/2018
(Napanarajit Mukherjee)
Member


(M.S. Dwivedy)
Member

Cops beat up student over 'solicitation'

'Bullied Over Perceived Sexual Orientation'

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Kolkata: A student, pursuing masters in human rights in Rabindra Bharati University, was reportedly harassed and slapped by three cops for alleged solicitation. The incident occurred late on Tuesday when the youth, Abhishek Kar, was reportedly walking towards Nandan from the Park Street Metro station.

Though the Maidan police denied the youth's allegations, saying, he was walking along a dark stretch towards Tai Ground, top Lalbazar and south division officers said an investigation is being conducted on specific charges.

Kar, a social activist, said he was returning home after watching a show at Nandan when he realised that he had left his wallet in a shop. So he was walking back to the shop. "I had reached in front of the Park Street Metro station when I was stopped by three cops who said they were from the Maidan police station. Even though I was alone, they said I was soliciting. When I tried to make my point, one of them slapped me while the others heckled me," he said.

"I had initially insisted on being taken to the police station as I couldn't understand what



“The three cops bullied me on the basis of my perceived sexual orientation, even to the extent of calling me a non-human

ABHISHEK KAR | Student

wrong I had done. I also asked them not to abuse me. They bullied me on the basis of my perceived sexual orientation, even to the extent of calling me a non-human. This continued for 15 minutes,” Kar said. He

alleged that when he went to lodge a complaint against the incident at the Maidan police station, one of the accused cops confronted him right in front of the officer on duty. “He insulted me using the choicest slangs that are heaped on LGBTQ community members, adding that he would do it again if he found me on the road,” said Kar.

“The CCTV camera footage from the nearby areas are being scanned. We are taking the complaint seriously. We will also ascertain what happened at the police station and then take appropriate action,” said a senior IPS officer. “I’ll give the cops some time to investigate and act accordingly, else I’ll submit a writ petition. I want the cops to undergo a gender sensitization course,” Kar said.