

Date: 12. 06.2017

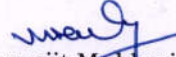
Enclosed is the news item appearing in "The Statesman " an English daily dated 12.06.2017, captioned "Widow gives away son to couple, puts blame on ambulance driver".

The Superintendent of Police, Burdwan(East) is directed to furnish a detailed report by 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 enclosing thereto:

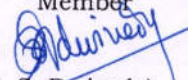
- (a) full address of Mona Hazra, mother of the child;
- (b) full address and particulars of the couple who took the child.



(Justice Girish Chandra Gupta)  
Chairperson



(Napanarajit Mukherjee )  
Member



( M. S. Dwivedy )  
Member

Encl: News Item Dt. 12. 06. 2017

Ld. Registrar to keep NHRC posted about cognizance taken on the subject by WBHRC and uploaded in the website.

# Widow gives away son to couple, puts blame on ambulance driver

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
BURDWAN, 11 JUNE

A helpless widow of Burdwan town, who had identified herself as the wife of an Army personnel from Uttar Pradesh at the time of giving birth to a baby boy at a state-run rural hospital and after discharge gave him away to an Army couple, now wants to get back her son.

She said: "I had to sell my son under pressure from the ambulance driver of Mankar Hospital. Now I repent."

Mona Hazra, a 29-year-old widow, was admitted to the Mankar Rural Hospital in Burdwan (East) with labour pains on 5 June.

According to the hospital record book, she was registered as Renu Pandit, wife of Sanu Pandit of Hanumangarh of Sanwara in Jalgaon district in Uttar Pradesh.

At 9:45 p.m. on the same day, she was taken to the labour room where she delivered a baby boy weighing 2.5 kg. On 7 June, she was discharged, but she returned to her house at Rathtalla in Burdwan alone.

Mona had married a battery-operated motor van owner, Bikram Hazra, of Burdwan last year. Bikram, however, died six months ago. After Bikram's death, his family members refused to take the responsibility of the pregnant wife of the deceased. She said: "I was forced to leave my husband's house and started living with my parents."

Her maternal uncle resides

**Mona Hazra was admitted to Mankar Rural Hospital in Burdwan (East) on 5 June.**

at Mankar and she was taken to the Mankar Hospital. Even as the destitute woman was yet to decide about the fate of the newborn, the ambulance driver identified as Haru Dutta of the hospital, according to Mona, "brought an Army personnel and his wife from Panagarh Army base. Haru asked me to sell my son to the Army man. They paid the entire hospital expenses."

On 7 June, at the time of discharge, she said, she took a bus for Burdwan alone and her son was taken to the Army base in a car. Now, she said: "I cannot live without my son. I want to get him back."

The ambulance driver, denying any foul-play and having accepted any cash in the transaction, said: "Since she was a widow and couldn't afford to bear the burden of the child, she wanted to kill the baby. When I heard about this I arranged to have her baby given to an Army couple, who were desperate for a child of their own."

The hospital superintendent, Dr Asit Singha said: "The woman hasn't registered any complaint of baby swapping at my office as yet." He, however, said: "The matter needs to be inquired why the woman had given an Uttar Pradesh address at the time of admission."